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Egyptian air crash kills 19

EZBET BENI SALAMA, Egypt (R) — An Egyptian air force jet crashed and exploded in this western desert village, killing at least 19 people on the ground, villagers said Friday. They said the incident occurred on Tuesday. Reports later reached Cairo, 130 kilometres away, but authoritative confirmation could not be obtained there and the defence ministry made no statement. Villagers, *who did not want to be identified*, told Reuters several people injured in the incident were taken to a Cairo military hospital. Casualties included women and children. "We have buried 19 already," said one man, telling of a huge explosion and a fireball that engulfed several alleyways lined by mud houses. Villagers said they were told the aircraft was a U.S.-built Phantom operating from a nearby base. They thought the crew — usually two in a Phantom — had died.

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Spanish university honours Hussein

AMMAN (J.T.) — The University of Ashbilieh in southern Spain has decided to award His Majesty King Hussein an honorary doctorate in appreciation of his status in the Arab and Islamic worlds, according to a report in the Al Ra'i. The honorary degree was awarded in accordance with a proposal by the dean of the Faculty of Languages at the university to bolster cultural ties between Spain and the Arab World, Al Ra'i added.

Israeli soldier killed in S.Lebanon

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli soldier was killed Friday in South Lebanon by a grenade thrown at a military convoy in the market town of Nabatiyeh, the military command announced. The command's communique said an Israeli civilian was slightly wounded in the 10 a.m. (0700 GMT) attack and Israeli soldiers returned fire and searched the area for the assailants. Since Israeli forces invaded Lebanon in June 1982, 577 soldiers and civilians have been killed there — 11 of them this year, according to official Israeli figures.

Beirut cuts ties with Costa Rica, Salvador

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese government has decided to sever diplomatic relations with Costa Rica and El Salvador, government sources said Thursday. They said the decision was taken at a meeting of the "national unity" government headed by Prime Minister *Rashid Karami because the* two Central American states had decided to move their embassies in Israel to Jerusalem.

Sri Lankan rebels kidnap Americans

COLOMBO (R) — Separatist guerrillas kidnapped an American couple Thursday night and threatened to kill them unless a ransom is paid, a government official said Friday. The official said the couple, Stanley and Mary Allen, were seized from their home in the troubled northern district of Jaffna. The guerrillas demanded a ransom of gold worth 50 million rupees ($2 million), to be sent through the government of the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu, he said. They also demanded that 20 guerrillas arrested by Sri Lanka must be released, also through Tamil Nadu.

India frees 200 Sikh detainees

NEW DELHI (R) — Nearly 200 militant Sikhs, including many political leaders, were freed from jail Friday in a bid to defuse communal tension in the violence-wracked north Indian state of Punjab. The Press Trust of India news agency said about 175 members of the Sikhs' main party, the Akali Dal, were freed from prisons in the Punjab state capital of Chandigarh and New Delhi. Among them were the former Punjab chief minister, Prakash Singh Badal, and former Indian Agriculture Minister Surjit Singh Barnala, it said.

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'Khomeini theory' threatens to tide over Mideast with fanaticism, 'Obeidat says

'Jordan-PLO talks focused on occupied lands'

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — *Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat* said Friday that the focus of the ongoing Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue is the liberation of the occupied territories and to do whatever possible to alleviate the suffering of our people under occupation and to reorganise the Jordanian-Palestinian home.

"Before the first dialogue that was broken off in April 1983, the situation in the occupied territories was not exactly a point of total agreement between Jordan and the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation)," Mr. 'Obeidat told Jordan Television in an interview. "But this time (in the going dialogue), the urgency of the developments in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has made it imperative that the situation in the occupied territories should be the basis of any effort, whether on the Palestinian-Jordanian level or on the Arab and international levels, *to solve the Palestinian question*," the prime minister said.

"The situation in the occupied territories, constitute both the starting and the ending point for any political move," he said.

Mr. 'Obeidat stressed that the various delegations from the West Bank and Gaza Strip which visited Jordan during the Jordanian-PLO talks last March were not being used "as a pressure factor" by the Jordanian government on the PLO leadership.

"They (the delegations) did not come to apply pressure on the PLO leadership," he said. "There is no need for such a thing, for facts about the situation in the occupied territories are very clear to everybody."

The prime minister said that another disagreement between Jordan and the PLO, which has been cleared out during the last round of talks, were that "while Jordan believed that a joint Jordanian-PLO strategy should be worked out first to be presented to the rest of the Arab countries, the PLO sought a pan-Arab formula."

"The PLO leaders, however, *were convinced to a certain extent* of the Jordanian view," Mr. 'Obeidat said, "but they are under internal pressures by the other PLO factions concerning this subject."

Therefore, Mr. 'Obeidat said, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat is waiting for the convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC) to get the approval for the basis of joint Jordanian-PLO moves.

"Once the basis of a Jordanian-Palestinian approach is crystallised, we will look forward for an Arab summit to secure Arab backing, which will be the starting point for joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves on the international level," the prime minister said.

He said that during the last round of the Jordan-PLO talks it was decided to revitalise the joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee to support the steadfastness of the people in the Israeli-Occupied Territories.

He stressed that a new plan concerning the work of the joint committee should be drawn up in order to cope with the developments in the occupied territories. "Until now there was a programme under which the joint committee has been operating, but the developments in the occupied territories necessitate a new programme," Mr. 'Obeidat said.

The work of the joint-committee, he pointed out, is limited by the lack of funds. Saudi Arabia was the only Arab country who fulfilled its financial commitments and Kuwait has pledged to complete its financial obligation to the committee, he added.

"The Arab delinquency in rendering financial support for the *steadfastness of our people in the* occupied territories is clear," he said, "but, we hope that Arab countries which are able to pay would increase their support once they understood the changes which took place in the occupied territories."

The prime minister refuted accusations that funds are being "misused" by the joint committee. He said that such accusations are "vague and very general," but that until now none of the Arab countries, which are supposed to fund the joint-committee, have ever



Ahmad 'Obeidat

raised such a complaint to us.

He said that there might be miscalculations, on the part the joint-committee, concerning concerning the distribution of the funds among the people and there might be people in the occupied territories who are in need of the money and do not get it because the committee does not know about them, but that does not justify the accusations that the committee is misusing funds.

"All *members of the joint* committee are informed of the amount of money that has been spent," he said. "Any Arab country is welcome to see the balance sheet of the joint committee," he said.

Mr. 'Obeidat, however, said that the major point concerning the approach of Arab countries towards the joint committee lies in the need to explain to them the reality of the situation in the occupied territories.

"Therefore, there should be a joint Jordanian-Palestinian action to explain to the Arab countries the situation in the occupied territories and the importance of any support, regardless of its volume, to our people there."

The joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee has already visited Algiers to seek financial support, and the prime minister said that it will continue its campaign in the Arab countries for funds.

Relations with Syria

Answering a question on relations with Syria and whether Amman and Damascus were conducting a dialogue at the present, the prime minister said that his government was working to create an atmosphere conducive to the convening of the next Arab summit, planned for Riyadh last year but which was postponed twice. Mr. 'Obeidat said that media attacks against the Syrian government were ordered to stop four months ago to create this sort of atmosphere in which the Arab summit could be held. He disclosed that "security contacts" took place between the two countries last year, but that they were later stopped, and Syria was still hosting, or allying itself with, groups which organised and carried out activities against Jordan.

Mr. 'Obeidat said political coordination between the two countries, and joint Jordanian-Syrian meetings on economic, social and cultural issues have been brought to a halt due to the dispute between the two countries.

Joint Jordanian-Syrian projects continue to be in operation and periodic meetings are held regularly in Amman and Damascus, he said.

"Our relations with Syria were sometimes tense because of the Iran-Iraq war, and after the aggravation of events in Lebanon and following the introduction of President Reagan's initiative for peace (in September 1981). It was also tense following the resumption of the talks between Jordan and the PLO," Mr. 'Obeidat said.

Asked whether the dispute between Jordan and Syria was over the U.S. policy in the area, Mr. 'Obeidat said: "This might fall under what is called the intervention in the internal affairs of *other countries. I do not believe* that any Arab country has the right to define its relation with another country on the basis of that country's relation with America."

Gulf war

Talking about the Iran-Iraq war, Mr. 'Obeidat said: "If there is anything new in this war, then it is that nothing in terms of peaceful solutions has so far been found."

"In my personal point of view," Mr. 'Obeidat added, "I do not believe that any solution similar to those already introduced will be successful, since in the Iranian point of view, and as far as I know, any Arab mediation is not acceptable."

"Our Islamic and Arab identity will be threatened in this area if the Khomeini theory succeeds in reaching the Arab World," Mr. 'Obeidat said. He clarified that he was not speaking about Islam, neither was he talking about the Islamic Republic of Iran or the Iranian Muslim people. He said: "We are speaking about the Khomeini theory which is prevailing now; fanaticism and sectarianism, which will yield nothing except further fanaticism and sectarianism. It will not produce love, neither will it achieve unity.

"Therefore we shall be before an arena of sectarianism, which is in fact in harmony with the Zionist and Israeli plans."

Any talks about using the European arena for explaining the Palestine question "is like ploughing in the sea," he said.

Mr. 'Obeidat said that the Arab World should deal with the European position on an equal footing taking into consideration the political position and the economic interests.

In reply to a question about Jordan's relations with Egypt, Mr. 'Obeidat said: "The image of Egypt has changed slightly after the new political leadership came to power and after the restoration of most of the Egyptian land to Egypt's sovereignty."

"We, in Jordan, as the first country to be affected by the Camp David accords and to be *concerned over American* pressures to involve us in such an agreement, are aware that the Arabs are in need of Egypt and Egypt is in need of the Arabs. Therefore, Jordan has always been working on Egypt's return to the Arab fold."

On the U.S. refusal last March to sell Jordan stinger anti-aircraft missiles, Mr. 'Obeidat said Jordan had received a "positive" response from almost every source it had approached for obtaining similar weaponry. "We are waiting to conclude the deals," he said.

Lebanese cabinet seeks to free captives held by rival factions

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon's new "national unity" cabinet Friday ended its first two-day working session without announcing new measures to end nine years of civil war, but after agreeing on "agreements and measures" for a swap of civil war captives.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami told reporters the agreement was reached in a four-hour meeting the cabinet held under President Amin Gemayel at his summer residence in his mountain resort town northeast of Beirut.

"The council of ministers has agreed upon arrangements and measures under which each party holding abductees should voluntarily and unconditionally release them," Mr. Karami said in a statement broadcast live on all local radio stations.

Gunpoint, sectarian kidnappings have been a characteristic of the Lebanese civil war which claimed more than 60,000 lives in the past nine years. About 150 captives, most of them civilians, are believed still held by rival militias, though some estimates place the total as high as 275.

Mr. Karami said, the cabinet resolved to ask the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) to arrange a swap in co-operation with a government committee and to ensure the safe transportation of the captives to their home areas.

The cabinet meeting was again boycotted by Greek Orthodox Abdullah Rassi whose patron ex-President Suleiman Franjieh is demanding representation by a moderate Maronite Christian.

Mr. Karami told reporters Friday's cabinet session discussed the outline of a programme to be presented later to parliament for approval.

But few details emerged as Mr. Karami said a five-man ministerial committee would meet at the presidential palace to draft the full policy statement.

Rival leaders in Mr. Karami's 10-man government made a show of amity during the two-day session. But hard bargaining is expected before they agree on a mutually-acceptable programme offering a way out of the war.

Clashes Thursday night, in Beirut and in mountains above the capital, between forces loyal to *factional leaders engaged in the* cabinet talks underlined the difficulties and dampened the optimism aroused when the meeting began Thursday.

Finance Minister Camille Chamoun told reporters that the next full meeting of the cabinet would be held Wednesday.

Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri, who serves as state minister for southern Lebanon as well as minister of justice, has been pressing for a "quick rehabilitation" of the army to cope with any unexpected Israeli pullback in the territory the Jewish state occupies in South Lebanon.

Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt, *whose mountain fighters team* with Mr. Berri's "Amal" militia in fighting government troops and mainly Christian rightist militias in the recent civil war battle, described the outcome of the cabinet discussions as "not bad."

Shortly after the nine cabinet members and Mr. Gemayel began their closed-door deliberations, two high-flying jets roared along a north-south course over Bikfaya, which lies 16 kilometres northeast of Beirut. Lebanese troops guarding *the meeting sites* said they believed the planes were Israeli.



KING, QUEEN LEAVE FOR BRITAIN: His Majesty King Hussein, His Highness Prince Mohammad, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat (right) listen as His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is sworn in as Regent during the absence of the King who left for Britain along with Her Majesty Queen Noor on a private visit. *(Petra photo).*

Mideast conference most urgent, PLO leader says

ATHENS (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat urged an international conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspieces Friday, saying otherwise the conflict might spread *beyond that region.*

Mr. Arafat, who got a tumultuous welcome on arrival at the Congress of Greece's ruling Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok), told delegates the talks should be without preconditions and include Security Council members and all parties to the conflict.

Such a meeting already has been proposed by the Soviet Union and has strong Arab backing, but the West has called the *idea premature.*

Mr. Arafat said: "I make an appeal to all to speed up the holding of this conference. Otherwise the volcano which exploded with the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982 will not stop at the borders of our region."

Mr. Arafat, twice evacuated from war-torn Lebanon with Greek help, received three standing ovations of several minutes each from the 2,500 delegates at the congress, the first in the Pasok *movement's 10-year history.*

"We are calling on Pasok and its leader, our friend (Greek Premier) Andreas Papandreou to support us in enforcing United Nations resolutions on setting up an independent Palestinian homeland," Mr. Arafat told the congress.

"We support Pasok in its struggle against imperialism and all forms of injustice... and thank Mr. Papandreou for his brave fight against Zionism in helping our *evacuations when we were under* siege in Beirut," Mr. Arafat said.

Last December, Greece's socialist government co-ordinated arrangements with Greek shipowners to evacuate Palestinian fighters from Lebanon.

Government to import foreign-made cigarettes

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub Thursday announced that the ministry is in the process of conducting a comprehensive study to organise the import and sale of foreign cigarettes in the local market.

The minister's announcement came after a cabinet decision Wednesday to import foreign cigarettes through the Ministry of Supply. The issue was extensively debated throughout the last few years.

Mr. Ayyoub explained that the ministry is taking into consideration the interests of the local cigarette industry and would limit the number of brands of cigarettes the ministry will be importing.

Mr. Ayyoub said the prices of the imported cigarettes would be fixed at a higher rate than the prices of local cigarettes. The exact prices will be fixed after ascertaining the cost and the amount of fees which will be added to it, he added.

The ministry is contacting various cigarette manufacturing companies to inquire the cost price, Mr. Ayyoub said. The revenues from foreign cigarette sales will go to the Agricultural Products Support Fund, the minister announced.

The quantities of foreign cigarettes to be imported by the ministry will be the same quantities which enter the Kingdom through smuggling, Mr. Ayyoub said. He added that the reason for the government's decision to import foreign cigarettes was to put an end to smuggling.

However, the brands of cigarettes the ministry intends to import would be the most popular and favoured ones in the country. They will be sold only by the licensed local cigarette vendors, he said.

Jordan emphasises necessity of U.N. conference on Mideast

AMMAN (J.T.) — *Jordan has stressed* the necessity to hold an international peace conference on the Middle East in line with a recent decision by the United Nations.

In a message to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez De Cuellar, delivered by Jordan's permanent representative at the U.N. Abdullah Salah, the Jordanian government stressed that it was well aware of the difficulties and procedural disputes facing the *holding of such a conference* among which the issue of the participation of all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict figures prominently.

Mr. Salah explained to Mr. Perez de Cuellar that these difficulties should not overshadow the more difficult problem which is the issue of empowering the conference with a clear and approved terms of reference.

The message to the U.N. stated that the Jordanian government envisages that the conference's powers and authorities should emanate from the principles and rules of international law which are applicable on the problems debated at the conference.

According to the message, the *conference's authorities* should include the possibility of applying the principle of inadmissability of the seizure of lands by force which is considered one of the basic principles of international relations and laws.

Israeli authorities force cancellation of Palestinian rally against Jewish attacks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Islamic religious leaders called off a planned demonstration Friday to protest attacks on Palestinians by a newly-discovered Jewish underground group after police called in reinforcements.

The protest had been called for by Salduddin Al Alami, head of the Supreme Islamic council in Jerusalem, to protest Jewish attacks on Palestinians and the stationing of Israeli forces in Islamic holy sites.

Extra police units, some called in from southern Israel, reinforced Jerusalem police and the army's border police outfitted with riot sticks and wearing helmets with face shields. Metal detectors were set up at entrances to the Haram Al Sharif area, and photographers and reporters were barred from the area.

Police unearthed the underground group two weeks ago after a foiled attempt to blow up five Palestinian-owned buses in East Jerusalem. A magistrate court was to hear a police request for the renewed detention of 10 of 27 suspects mostly members of Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Golan Heights.

According to Reuters, the suspected terrorists considered launching an air raid on Islamic shrines in Jerusalem several years ago in a desperate attempt to sabotage the Egyptian-Israeli accord signed in 1979.

Reuters quoted sources as saying plots to bomb the Al Haram Al Sharif quarter from both air and ground were uncovered by security agents investigating the Jewish terrorist underground.

The terrorists believed the bombing would force Cairo to break ties with Israel and stop the Israeli evacuation of the Sinai Peninsula, the sources said. Israel handed Sinai back to Egypt in 1982 under the Camp David accords.

The terrorists eventually dropped the project, apparently because they feared it might damage the Jewish Wailing Wall nearby, the sources added.

An air force officer and three army majors are among about 25 Jews arrested in the crack down. Israel Radio said security forces sought three more men.

Scores more have been questioned in the investigaton, including Rabbi Moshe Levinger, the fiery Jewish settler leader in the West Bank. He was interviewed at Jerusalem police headquarters Thursday and reported back for more Friday.

The radio said the settlers backed ultra-nationalist Science Minister Yuval Neeman. He has set off a political storm by saying the 1980 car bomb attacks maiming two West Bank Palestinian mayors had a "positive effect".

Jordan vows to foil Israeli attempts to evict Palestinians

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian government will do its utmost to foil the Israeli occupation authorities' attempts to depopulate the Arab lands of their legal inhabitants', Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Suleiman Arar said Thursday.

Mr. Arar was speaking to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, during a tour of the King Hussein and Prince Mohammad bridges.

In a statement to Petra, Mr. Arar said the tour involved the inspection of progress on the work on both bridges which is aimed to provide conditions of comfort for travellers going across the bridges and to help alleviate their suffering at the hands of the Israeli procedures.

Mr. Arar expressed his satisfaction and pride in the high quality of the work and the resultant facilities being provided for the travellers, within both the resources and the means available to Jordan.

Mr. Arar affirmed that the government will take into consideration all views and opinions made by the officials at the two bridges, with a view to facilitating the entry and exit of citizens both from and to this part of their homeland, particularly during the summer.

Accompanying Mr. Arar on his tour were Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud, Balqa Governor Mohammad Al Khatib and representatives of the Public Security Directorate, in addition to a number of officials from all concerned departments.

Sharaf: U.S. lost role as Mideast mediator

By Amin Al Qutob
and agency dispatches

CAIRO — Information Minister Laila Sharaf said here Wednesday that the United States had lost its role as a mediator in the Middle East peace process because of its biased attitude towards Israel and its strategic political and military alliance with it.

"We cannot go on relying on the United States as a mediator and we must have an international effort to achieve peace," the minister said.

Mrs. Sharaf said that the Reagan peace initiative was bound to fail because of Israel's rejection to it since the very start", Mrs Sharaf said.

"The United States should have persuaded Israel to withdraw its forces from southern Lebanon and stop building more settlements on the occupied Arab territories, but this has not materialised and the Reagan peace initiative eventually failed," the minister added.

Mrs. Sharaf stressed that "the Palestinians cannot be excluded from the peace process and Jordan cannot speak for the Palestinians.

"We should not satisfy ourselves with U.S. and European rejection of a proposed international peace conference on the Middle East, but we should rather work relentlessly on the diplomatic and political scenes to bring about the convening of such conference, the minister said.

Mrs. Sharaf stressed that a just and durable solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict cannot be found unless such a conference is convened where the superpowers and all parties to the conflict can take part to arrive at a lasting peace formula."

On Jordanian-Palestinian efforts to save the Arab territories from Israeli occupation, Mrs. Sharaf said that "the two sides have just embarked on steps in this direction, but there is a lot of work to be done and things are complicated.

"At present, she said, "the world is passing through a relative calm in view of the coming U.S. presidential election, but we should try to exploit this period in further bolstering joint Jordanian-Palestinian action, unifying stands of Arab states and in try to adopt a common Arab policy towards the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Asked on the Jordanian-Egyptian rapprochement, the minister said that her presence in Cairo to attend a meeting by information ministers from non-aligned nations was one of the results of this rapprochement.

The non-aligned meeting which opened here Wednesday is attended by information ministers or delegates from Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Morocco, Mexico, Tunisia, Cuba, North Korea, Vietnam, Yugoslavia and Jordan, according to the Middle East News Agency.

Mrs. Sharaf said Thursday that the strife-torn Palestine Liberation Organisation must "set its own house in order" before there can be progress on a dialogue with Jordan about the future of the Palestinians.

Mrs. Sharaf made the remark to reporters following a meeting with President Hosni Mubarak, during



Laila Sharaf

which she conveyed His Majesty King Hussein's greetings to President Mubarak.

She said talks between the PLO and Jordan were in the "preliminary stage."

"We hope the PLO will be able to set its own house in order so that progress can be made," she said.

Later in the day Mrs. Sharaf met with Egypt's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali and exchanged with him views on various issues on the Arab and international arenas.

Mrs. Sharaf also visited President Mubarak's wife and talked with her about efforts of the Arab women and their role in the society.

These meetings were attended by Egypt's Information Minister Safwat Al Sharif and head of the Jordanian interests section in Cairo.

NAAA seeks more effective political voice in U.S.

By Bruce Carey
USIA staff writer

WASHINGTON — The National Association of Arab Americans (NAAA) accelerated its efforts to establish a more effective political voice for Americans of Arab descent May 4 to 6 in its 12th annual convention.

The theme of the convention — "impact 84" — conveyed one of the organisation's principal purposes: To mobilise the political and economic resources of Americans of Arab descent against a host of Israeli policies and actions on Jerusalem, Lebanon and the West Bank.

As a prelude to the convention May 3, NAAA members participated in "Arab-American Day" — the largest single day of congressional lobbying thus far by a group of Arab-Americans, to oppose bills that would move the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. More than a hundred NAAA officers and members participated.

U.S. Senator James Abdnor told the group that Arab-Americans should increase their right to influence members of Congress through legitimate means, citing "Jewish Americans and Greek Americans" as examples of ethnic groups that have formed powerful lobbies that affect U.S. policy toward the lands of their ancestors.

The seminars, workshops and lectures that composed most of the convention activities focused largely on the embassy issue. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy and other State Department officials invited to address the gatherings stressed President Reagan's determination that the embassy will remain where it is regardless of action by Congress.

Mr. Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz have repeatedly asserted that moving the embassy would not only be unwise and unjustified, but that the executive branch and not the Congress is authorised under the U.S. constitution to decide the matter.

Mr. Murphy and the other State Department officials at the convention said there will be no compromise despite press speculation that the independent U.S. consulate in Jerusalem may be placed under the jurisdiction of the embassy in Tel Aviv.

Thomas Nassif, deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, explained the history of U.S. policy on Jerusalem at an Arab-American Day luncheon on Capitol Hill. He said that the consulate pre-dates both Israel and Jordan, and that it has no connection to American bilateral relations with either state.

"In 1949, when Israel began moving its government to Jerusalem, we informed it that we could not accept a unilateral claim to the city," he told persons gathered for the day's lobbying activities. "In 1960 we informed Jordan of our opposition to its intention to make the Eastern part of the city Jordan's second capital. In 1967... we opposed... actions to place all of Jerusalem under Israeli law, jurisdiction and administration."

An NAAA article issued at the convention notes that the first independent U.S. consulate in Jerusalem dates back to 1857. The consulate reported directly to the State Department rather than to the U.S. embassy in Constantinople (Istanbul), capital of the Ottoman Empire, which ruled Palestine before 1918.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Robert Pelletreau told the convention at a May 5 seminar that the State Department has received much advice on the proposed move. "The overwhelming content of messages is 'don't do it'," he said. "This is the wrong issue at the wrong time."

At a major luncheon speech May 5, Assistant Secretary Murphy told the convention that the United States has four priorities in the Middle East: Ending the Arab-Israeli conflict; containing the Iran-Iraq war; countering terrorism; and addressing the human needs of the Palestinian people.

U.S. ties with Arabs

"America's relations with the Arab World" was another major topic of discussion at the convention. Major General Edward Tixier, deputy assistant secretary of defence for for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, told participants that friendly U.S. relations with Arab states is essential to the military co-operation needed to contain Soviet expansionism. However, he asserted that the Arab-Israeli dispute interferes with such ventures.

"Many of our problems in securing such military co-operation with Arab states stems from their perception that we are not willing to support them on an equal footing with Israel," said Gen. Tixier. "We believe that we can help both Israel and the Arab states more effectively by securing better relations between them. And we realise we can do this only if we improve our relationships with the Arab states."

Jerusalem was one of several issues in the U.S.-Israel relationship dealt with by the convention. Others were:

-- Proposed U.S. aid to Israel in fiscal year 1985. NAAA officers and members condemned Congress' boost of the administration's aid package to Israel from $2.250 million to $1.600 million.

-- The Lavi jet fighter. The NAAA says the $400 million in the aid package to develop and build the new jet in Israel rather than in the U.S. will cost U.S. jobs through loss of funds and Israeli competition with the U.S. aircraft industry.

-- U.S.-Israeli free trade. The NAAA charges that a bill in Congress to lift all tariffs on trade between Israel and the United States will endanger American domestic industries.

-- Stinger sales. The members said that the decision not to sell anti-aircraft weapons to Jordan and Saudi Arabia will weaken the U.S. alliance with those states.

-- Lebanon. NAAA members had scheduled a march from the hotel convention site to Lafayette Park in front of the White House, four blocks away, to protest the continuing Lebanese civil war. But it was cancelled because of heavy rain. The NAAA showed a filmed advertisement to its members, listing Arab contributions to civilisation and condemning Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

The NAAA has preliminary plans to hold its 13th annual convention in Washington.

Turkey urged to lift martial law

STRASBOURG, France (R) — The Council of Europe Thursday urged Turkey's military rulers to lift martial law throughout the country and to declare a general amnesty for political prisoners.

A resolution adopted by a big majority at the assembly of the 21-nation council also called for social reforms to promote democracy and to safeguard human rights.

It asked Ankara to take a strong stand against torture, to improve prison conditions and to affirm the freedom of political parties, trade unions, the press and education. The rights of minorities should also be assured, the resolution said.

A preamble to the document noted that restrictions had been placed on parties during last November's general election and expressed concern at the number of political prisoners. But it welcomed the abolition of martial law in 13 provinces.

A small minority, mainly Communists, voted against the resolution, while British Conservatives joined the 12 Turkish representatives in abstaining.

Assad, Ceausescu discuss Mideast

DAMASCUS (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad had a second round of talks Friday on Middle East and international issues, the official Syrian News Agency SANA reported.

The two leaders and their aides also discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations, but SANA gave no further details.

Mr. Ceausescu called in a banquet speech Thursday night for negotiations on a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, leading to Israel's withdrawal from occupied Arab territories, solution of the Palestine issue and establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

"Romania upholds the convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of all states and parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), to play a positive role in solving Middle East problems," he said.

In his welcome speech at the banquet, Mr. Assad accused Israel of preparing an attack against Syria and obstructing Middle East peace efforts.

"The indications are that Israel is preparing for a new aggression against Syria," he said.

Before his talks with Mr. Assad Friday, Mr. Ceausescu met Khaled Fahoum, speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC).

Morocco completes new desert defences

RABAT (R) — Morocco has completed a new line of desert defences designed to seal off the Algerian frontier and prevent incursions by Polisario guerrillas into the Western Sahara, informed sources said Friday.

They said the defences, built by the Moroccan army, stretched from Zag in southern Morocco across the Western Sahara to join up with other defensive walls built over the past two years to protect towns in the northwest of the territory.

The Moroccan News Agency MAP Friday quoted a message from King Hassan commending the army for erecting "an insurmountable rampart to preserve the territorial integrity of out fatherland and the prestige of our nation."

In a series of statements issued over the last month in Algiers, the Polisario Front said the construction of new Moroccan defensive lines had created difficulties for its guerrillas, who are fighting Morocco for control of the former Spanish territory.

Israelis keep Nablus mayor out of his home

NABLUS, West Bank (R) — Former West Bank Mayor Bassam Shakaa said Thursday Israeli security men barred him from his home Wednesday night as they re-enacted the 1980 car bomb attack in which he lost both legs.

Mr. Shakaa said he was visiting his brother a short distance away Wednesday night when Israelis drove up to his house in Nablus with a Jewish suspect believed to have planted the bomb.

"I returned home immediately but they stopped me entering. I protested but they kept me about 20 metres away as this tall, bearded figure showed how he put the bomb in my car," Mr. Shakaa told Reuters.

The suspect is one of 25 Jews detained by Israeli police investigating a series of anti-Arab attacks dating from car bomb attacks on Mr. Shakaa and two other West Bank mayors four years ago.

The blasts seriously injured one of the other mayors and set off violent demonstrations in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Mr. Shakaa said Israeli investigators had still not taken evidence from him about the bomb, which went off when he switched on the ignition of his car outside his home.

Asked if he saw the investigation by the Israelis into attacks on Arabs as a good sign, Mr. Shakaa said he would not be optmistic until Israel showed more respect for Palestinian rights.

The 1980 car bombs were apparently in retaliation for the murder of six Jewish settlers in the West Bank town of Hebron a month earlier. At the time some Israeli officers tried to blame the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for the blasts.

They said the organisation was angry that the pro-PLO West Bank mayors were taking initiatives without consulting the PLO.

Mr. Shakaa said Thursday that the night before the blasts, two men called at his home and said they were PLO guerrillas on the run after carrying out the Hebron attack. "I told them that I have no relations with any military organisation," he added.

Mr. Shakaa suggested they were imposters and part of an Israeli plot to plant blame for the bombs on the PLO.

Israeli Science minister Yuval Neeman, an outspoken ultra-nationalist, Wednesday said he believed the 1980 car bombings had a positive effect. "It is shameful people like Neeman are in the Knesset (Israeli Parliament)," Mr. Shakaa said.

The 53-year-old ex-mayor can walk with the aid of artificial limbs and crutches but spends much of the day in a wheelchair.

The Israelis removed him from the job of mayor of Nablus in 1982 for refusing to co-operate with Israeli authorities. He is not allowed to leave the town.

Riyadh warns U.S. against embassy move

RIYADH (USIA) — Saudi Arabia and other Muslim nations would sever diplomatic ties with the United States if the U.S. embassy in Israel were moved to Jerusalem, the Saudi foreign minister said Tuesday.

In an interview, Prince Saud Al Faisal noted that the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), which groups the Muslim nations of the world, had decided to break ties with any country that establishes its embassy in Islam's third-holiest city.

"We are committed of course to these decisions," Prince Faisal said.

The Princeton-educated prince continued: "We hate to abrogate relations with any country, let alone the United States. The issue is so important, so significant, so consequential that here these intentions must be reciprocal. I think the United States also has to be interested in maintaining its relations with the Muslim World...".

Diplomats in the Saudi capital noted that the prince's statements were the bluntest so far by a Saudi official on the issue of transferring the U.S. embassy in Israel...

Diplomats in the region, as well as Prince Faisal, say that the reaction to the embassy relocation would not be limited to the Arab World. Prince Faisal warned of "dire, very dire consequences in the relations with any country that moves its embassy to Jerusalem."

U.N. to call for end to Turkish-Cypriot state

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Four nations made a fresh call to the Security Council Thursday night for the abrogation of self-proclaimed Turkish-Cypriot independence.

The draft resolution, sponsored by India, Nicaragua, Upper Volta and Zimbabwe, also condemned the exchange of ambassadors between Turkey and the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus."

Council President Oleg Troyanovsky of the Soviet Union told reporters he expected it to be put to a vote Friday night.

This would conclude a debate that began a week ago in response to actions by Turkey widely seen as consolidating the breakaway Turkish-Cypriot state proclaimed last November.

The draft omits all reference to the threat of sanctions which appeared in an initial text drawn up by the Cyprus delegation. The changes are the result of intensive consultations involving the council's non-aligned members, some of whom still decline to co-sponsor the resolution.

The draft calls for the urgent implementation of a six-month-old decision by the council demanding the withdrawal of Turkish-Cypriot independence as legally invalid.

It also condemns "all secessionist actions, including the purported exchange of ambassadors" and calls on all countries not to recognise the "purported state" in Northern Cyprus.

The resolution deplores "recent threats" to settle part of the new Famagusta area, now under Turkish army control, with people other than its inhabitants.

Fire aboard Saudi tanker extinguished

BAHRAIN (R) — A fire aboard a fully-laden Saudi oil tanker in the Gulf has been extinguished and its cargo remains intact, shipping sources said Thursday.

They said the 117,710-ton Al Ahood, apparently hit by an Iraqi missile on Monday night, was being towed to the Iranian port of Bushire.

Al Ahood, owned by the Jeddah-based Al Amar Line Maritime Company, was hit after taking on 140,000 tonnes of crude at Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal.

The sources said the ship appeared to be safe, but was taking on water towards the stern, making it slightly unstable.

Al-Ahood was the second Saudi-owned tanker reported hit by a missile in two weeks. On April 25 the 178,808-ton Safina Al Arab, owned by A/S Safina of Riyadh, was hit as it sailed south after loading 340,000 tonnes of crude at Kharg.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 ... Koran
17:40 ... Cartoons
17:55 ... Children Programme
18:20 ... Local Programme
18:30 ... Wiz Kids
19:20 ... Programme Review
19:30 ... Local Programme
20:00 ... News in Arabic
20:35 A special programme on the occasion of the International Traffic Day
21:30 ... Variety
22:00 ... Arabic Play
23:00 ... News in Arabic
23:10 ... Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 ... French Programme
19:00 ... News in French
19:30 ... News in Hebrew
20:30 Jennifer Slept Here Ep. 4
21:00 Documentary: The Cold War Game - Part 1
21:30 Saturday Variety Show
22:00 ... News in English
22:30 Feature film: The Jerk Too

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM
& parts on 9560 KHz SW

07:00 ... Light Music
07:30 ... Newsdesk
08:00 ... Morning Show
10:00 ... News Summary
10:05 ... Morning Show
11:00 ... News Summary
11:05 ... Pop Session
12:00 ... News Summary
12:03 ... Pop Session
13:00 ... News Summary
13:05 ... Pop Session
14:00 ... News Bulletin
14:10 ... Jordan Weekly
14:50 ... Music
15:00 ... Concert Hour
16:00 ... News Summary
16:05 ... Instrumentals
16:30 ... Old Favourites
17:00 ... Special Feature
17:30 ... Music
18:00 ... News Summary
18:05 ... Top Twenty
19:00 ... News
19:30 ... Date with a Star
20:00 ... Good Old Days
20:30 ... Just A Minute
21:00 ... News Summary
21:05 ... Country Music
21:55 ... News Summary
22:00 ... Play of the Week
23:00 ... News Summary
23:05 ... Classical Concert
24:00 ... News Headlines

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk **06:30** That's Trad **06:45** Financial News **6:55** Reflections **07:00** World News **07:09** British Press Review **07:15** About Britain **07:30** New Ideas **07:40** Book Choice **07:45** The World Today **08:00** Newsdesk **08:30** Album Time **09:00** World News **09:09** News about Britain **09:15** From the Weeklies **09:30** Classical Record Review **09:45** London Royal **10:00** World News **10:09** Reflections **10:15** A Treasury of Musick **10:30** Brain of Britain 1984 **11:00** World News **11:09** British Press Review **11:15** The World Today **11:30** Financial News **11:40** Look Ahead **11:45** People and Politics **12:15** What's New **12:30** My Word! **13:00** World News **13:09** News About Britain **13:15** About Britain **13:30** Meridian **14:00** Radio Newsreel **14:15** Anything Goes **14:45** Sports Round-up **15:00** World News **15:09** Commentary **15:15** London Royal **15:30** Album Time **16:00** Saturday Special **16:45** News Summary **17:00** Radio Newsreel **17:15** Saturday Special **18:00** World News **18:09** Commentary **18:15** Saturday Special **19:00** News Summary **19:09** Book Choice **19:15** Baker's Half Dozen **19:45** Sports Round-up **20:00** Newsdesk **20:30** Play of the Week: Who's Who in Flapland **21:30** Album Time **22:00** World News **22:09** Commentary **22:15** Good Books **22:30** Too Many People **23:15** What's New **23:30** People and Politics **24:00** World News **00:09** From our own Correspondent

VOICE OF AMERICA
1260 MW, 7200, 9565, 11740 11925 and 15210 KHz.

00:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour; news summaries; daily business report, science and medicine sports reports; editorial, world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis; American viewpoints, features **17:00** News **17:10** This Week **17:30** Special English News and Features **18:00** News **18:10** American viewpoints **18:30** Press Conference USA **19:00** News **19:10** This Week **19:30** Special English News and features **20:00** News **20:30** Weekend Survey of World News, Correspondent's Reports, Music, Cultural Events and Features **21:00** News **21:10** American Viewpoints

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Australian graphic art Donnele Patterson at Alia Art Gallery.

* "Jordan 1984" an exhibition of paintings at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.

* Art exhibition by Mr. Michel Lecomte at the Royal Cultural Centre between May 7 and May 15.

VIDEO

* "Julien de Youri" at the French Cultural Centre at 4:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre . Tel. 6610267
American Centre 44371
American Centre Library 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan, Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim count ...and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Ammam Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Ammon Hotel, 7.30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249

PRAYER TIMES

03:06 ... Fajr
04:39 ... (Sunrise) Shuruq
11:33 ... Dhuhr
15:13 ... 'Asr
18:26 ... Maghreb
19:57 ... 'Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:05 ... Cairo (MS)
09:15 ... Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 ... Aqaba (RJ)
09:30 ... Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
09:45 ... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
09:45 ... Kuwait (RJ)
09:45 ... Jeddah (RJ)
09:45 ... Cairo (RJ)
10:00 ... Dhahran (RJ)
14:25 ... Larnaca (CY)
14:40 ... Kuwait (KU)
17:10 ... Paris, Damascus (AF)
17:30 ... New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:00 ... Baigrade, Istanbul (RJ)
18:30 ... Cairo (RJ)
18:45 ... Rome, Damascus (AZ)
19:00 ... Tripoli (RJ)
19:50 ... Frankfurt, Damascus (LH)
23:05 ... Cairo (MS)
00:45 ... Cairo (RJ)
00:45 ... Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

05:10 ... Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
05:45 ... Cairo (RJ)
07:15 ... Aqaba (RJ)
08:05 ... Cairo (MS)
10:30 ... Tripoli (RJ)
11:45 ... Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:00 ... Paris, London (RJ)
12:15 ... Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:30 ... Rome (RJ)
14:40 ... Cairo (RJ)
15:15 ... Larnaca (CY)
15:40 ... Kuwait (KU)
19:30 ... Kuwait (RJ)
20:15 ... Baghdad (RJ)
20:15 ... Jeddah (RJ)
20:30 ... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:45 ... Cairo (RJ)
00:45 ... Cairo (MS)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Banglar Moni
— Aegis Mystic
— Vishva Aditya
— Laredo
— Al Khansa
— Rolita
— Jolly Celest
— Motah
— Alwasiti

Amin Kawar and Sons Company. Tel: 22324 (six lines) at your service.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair, with southeasterly moderate winds and little increase in temperature. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Lowl/high temperature in deg.C.

Amman 12/30
Aqaba 19/36
Deserts 11/32
Jordan Valley 16/35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29, Aqaba 35. Humidity readings: Amman 17 per cent, Aqaba 15 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in fils

Belgian franc 66.7/ 67.1
Dutch guilder 120.6/ 121.3
Egyptian guinea 323.7/ 327.6
French franc 44.1/ 44.4
Iraqi dinar 353.6/ 357.6
Italian lire (for 100) 22/ 22.2
Japanese yen (for 100) 164.2/ 165.2
Kuwaiti dinar 1281.3/ 1286
Lebanese lira 65.9/ 66.7
Omani riyal 1076/ 1081.5
Qatari riyal 102.2/ 102.7
Saudi riyal 106/ 106.6
Swedish crown 46.3/ 46.8
Swiss franc 165/ 166
Syrian lira 52.7/ 53.4
UAE dirham 102.8/ 103.3
U.K. sterling pound 520.7/ 523.8
U.S. dollar 378.5/ 380.5
W. German mark 135.4/ 136.2

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Firstaid, fire, police 199
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport .. (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre .. 813813-32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4
Akileh Maternity, J. Amman .. 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malhas, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111
Army, Marka 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Abdul Aziz Abu Khalaf 22520
Dr. Daoud Samhori 776892
Al Salaam pharmacy 36730
Nairoukh pharmacy 23672
Mreish pharmacy 70910
Fayez pharmacy 661627
Dareen pharmacy (—)

Vinecia taxi 44584
Mihyar taxi 44574
Shmeisani taxi 665294
Asem taxi 844503
Jordan taxi 23050
Amman taxi 51424

IRBID
Dr. Mohammad K. Zuhi (—)
Fuad pharmacy 75360

ZARQA:
Dr. Khaleel Abu Hussein 85001
Al Jalab pharmacy (—)

GENERAL

Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Cable or telegram 18
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Banana 280 / 240
Banana (Mukammar) 240 / 210
Beans 320 / 280
Broad Beans 250 / 220
Beet root 130 / 100
Cabbage 70 / 50
Carrot 140 / 110
Cauliflower (white) 240 / 200
Chestnut 400 / 350
Chick peas 120 / 100
Cucumber (large) 200 / 170
Cucumber (small) 290 / 260
Eggplant (large) 130 / 100
Eggplant (small) 130 / 100
Garlic 340 / 300
Grapefruit 180 / 160
Green Almonds 180 / 150
Lemon 190 / 160
Mallow 480 / 440
Marrow (large) 250 / 200
Marrow (small) 350 / 300
Mandarin 230 / 200
Mushrooms 600 / 500
Onion (dry) 100 / 80
Onion (green) 180 / 140
Okra 150 / 100
Oranges (local) 300 / 250
Oranges (Shummoti) 350 / 300
Pears 500 / 450
Peas 320 / 280
Pepper (sweet) 300 / 250
Pepper (hot green) 360 / 320
Potatoes 120 / 90
Spinach 240 / 200
Tomatoes 130 / 100

Iraq to buy $17m of local goods

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraq has signed contracts for the purchase of $17 million worth of Jordanian products, according to the head of an Iraqi trade delegation Ghaleb Al Radhi in a statement carried Friday in the local Arabic daily newspaper, Al Dustour.

Mr. Radhi left Amman Thursday after a two-week visit to Jordan during which he signed the contracts.

Specialised Iraqi teams are due to arrive in Amman during the next few weeks to continue the mission of the current delegation and to sign similar contracts to import more Jordanian products, he said.

The contracts include the importation of consumer goods, leather products and Jordanian clothes.

The signing of these contracts is in implementation of the Jordanian-Iraqi agreement for the current year signed by Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani and his Iraqi counterpart during a recent visit by Dr. Anani to Baghdad.

The Iraqi delegation had a meeting with Dr. Anani during their stay here at which they briefed him on the results of their visit and also discussed a number of issues related to facilitating trade between the two country.

Mr. Radhi praised the facilities provided by the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, the Amman Chamber of Industry and the trade centres in both countries in bringing success to the delegation's mission.

Gaye Patterson's etchings carry a sense of social responsibility

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The difference between what you expect and what happens in reality can sometimes be devastating, as displayed in the etchings of Australian artist Gaye Patterson, on show here at the Alia Art Gallery.

Gaye depicts in a number of her etchings the ordeal of the Palestinian people who suffered most when "those who were supposed to be their saviours turned out to be dictators — when life became death and hope turned into despair".

The artist, who visited the occupied West Bank in 1979, depicted in etchings, the paradoxical situation of Palestinians living in the occupied territories and in Lebanon.



Gaye Patterson

Plight of Palestinians

In one of her photo etchings, Gaye successfully describes the plight of Palestinians represented in the figure of an old Palestinian woman, standing helplessly; her arms stretched in front of her, with two dead young bodies in the foreground.

The desperate expression on the woman's face, that of having lost everything and being too old to start all over again, is contrasted by the image of ex-Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin in the background, looking on with an icy, cold and merciless look and clearly not caring.

The artist made this etching after the massacres of Palestinian civilians in the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps in Lebanon at the hands of the Israeli forces and their rightist Lebanese allies.

The influence of religion on people was represented in a three-piece etching: "The Lebanon", which shows how people looked on religion as their saviour and how their saviour "turned out to be a dictator" inflicting death and destruction, shattering all hopes.

War and peace

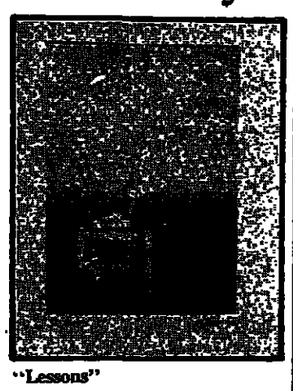
War and peace were personified in yet another photo etching by Gaye.

The artist here, portrays the image of assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in many hues and tones of black and white. Begin on the other hand — in the same etching — is portrayed in the midst of death weapons.

Sadat according to the artist, represented the hope for peace, while Begin seemed as if peace was the last thing on his mind. In an interview with the Jordan Times, Gaye said that the etching envisages the "dishonesty" of the Camp David peace treaty. "Begin's idea of peace is when there is no enemy", she said.

She added, "I know now what it is like for people to be under occupation — it is not like the sensation given in the media; I have seen it as a day to day reality".

The artist maintained that if people are aware of beauty, they have to be aware of ugliness as well, and that as artists "we should carry a social responsibility and show our consciousness of what happens around.



"Lessons"

ART REVIEW

"I will continue doing what I am doing, expressing what effects me through my art — my way of helping", she added.

In her etchings and drawings, Gaye also expresses her impressions of Jordanian villages and local sites such as Petra, Jerash, antiquities and portraits of Jordanian faces.

Abstract, simplied forms

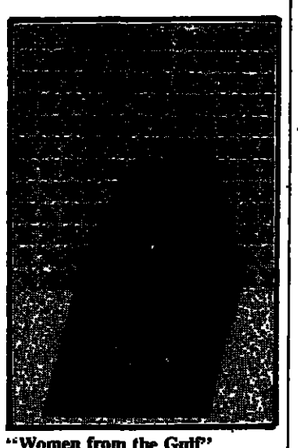
Gaye, 34, produces attractive black and white as well as colour etchings of the various aspects of local Jordanian life in slightly abstract and simplied forms, yet with strong biting lines.

She has 21 etchings and five drawings on show.

In one of her drawings, she puts into focus, one of the contradictions facing us in our daily life: A bottle of Pepsi offered on an antique bronze tray.

"Women from the Gulf" is probably one of the most striking original works on show with a strong black and white contrast and daring plain spaces.

The etching somehow remains in your memory as a very original work of art which depicts our rather fading culture and traditions — bringing them back to life in simplied shapes and forms.



"Women from the Gulf"

Decorative inclinations in some of the artist's works cannot be overlooked either, as seen in her etchings of Arab antique coffee pots and other colour etchings.

The artist told the Jordan Times that upon her return to Bangkok where her husband has been recently appointed as diplomat there, she will set up a studio and workshop.

"The next subject I will be working on there, will be the refugees in Thailand and the situations of Kampucheans on the border with Vietnam," she said.

The exhibition opened May 2 and will run until May 14.

Chamber law amendment debated

AMMAN (Petra) — Amending the statutes of the Arab-American Chamber of Commerce in order to stipulate that an American be appointed and an Arab as secretary-general were discussed during a meeting Thursday of the executive council of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce.

During the meeting, which was presided over by Mr. Ibrahim Tageyddin, the executive council decided to discuss with the directors of the Jordanian chambers of commerce certificates of origin, and to define the responsibilities of the chambers in issuing certificates of origin. The council also reviewed a letter from the minister of industry, trade and tourism, Dr. Jawad Anani, which included an amendment to the regulations of the chamber's board of directors to allow new commercial sectors to be represented on the board.

In this connection, the participants decided to inform the minister that the Amman Chamber of Commerce is preparing an amended law to include such a provision.

The council also reviewed the outcome of the talks which the Jordanian economic delegation had in the Yemen Arab Republic and Djibouti.

The council also agreed to participate in the seminar on the vegetable oil industry in the Arab World, which will be held in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum between Sept. 25 and 27.

The council also decided to take part in the seminar on the commercial potential in Arab-American relations, which is due to be held in Kuwait on May 23.

Symposium seeks controls on poultry diseases

AMMAN (J.T.) — A regional symposium on "Emerging Poultry Diseases of Economic Importance in the Near East ended Thursday at the University of Jordan Faculty of Agriculture.

The symposium was organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, the faculty, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD).

Member of the symposium's preparatory committee Abdul Rahman Fataftah said the final session discussed the recommendations issued by the symposium.

These recommendations, which will be issued in full Saturday, dealt with curative and preventive ways of controlling poultry disease.



Members of the Upper House of Parliament during Thursday's ordinary session meeting (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Nabulsi outlines policy made at housing talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Housing and Re-construction Ministers' executive council which met in Tunis last month, has decided on measures to be taken to restore archaeological sites in Jerusalem.

The announcement was made by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi upon his return home Wednesday evening after taking part in the council's two-day meeting. After the Tunis meeting, he left for Gabon where he attended a 12-day meeting of the United Nations Human Settlements Centre.

Mr. Nabulsi said that the council also decided to hold a seminar in Amman in July on the environment and pollution and another in Morocco on "ill-planned settlements" later on in the year.

Also, the use of mud in building homes and the maintenance of buildings and public utilities in rural and urban regions will be discussed at the Morocco meeting, Mr. Nabulsi added. He said that the council also discussed the subject of encouraging housing projects in the occupied Arab territories,

Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories were discussed at the UN human settlements meetings in Gabon.

It was decided that a UN team should carry out a fact-finding mission in these territories to look into Israel's drive to build settlements, while denying the Arabs the right to build homes on their own land, Mr. Nabulsi said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Twelve killed in week's car accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — Twelve people were killed and 92 others injured in car accidents all over Jordan during the last week, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, qutoed Public Security officials as saying. The officials said that during the week in question, 257 different accidents took place, most of which were in Amman.

Development team to review aid

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) will arrive in Amman Sunday on a four-day visit to Jordan. Headed by AOID Director-General Hatem Abdul Rasheed, the delegation aims to examine the type of industrial aid that could be offered to Jordan. The AOID delegation will also meet Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Anani, and president of the Amman Chamber of Industry Issam Bdeir.

Meteorology slated for Geneva

AMMAN (Petra) — The Meteorological Department is to participate in the meetings of the special committee of telecommunications experts to be held by the International Meteorological Organisation (IMO) in Geneva at the end of October. The Meteorological Department will be represented by the head of the training and research section, Dr. Amin Dawoud Qara'een. Dr. Qara'een is a specialist in the higher layers of the atmosphere.

Arab management talks to convene

AMMAN (Petra) — A training programme on project management will start on May 21 at the headquarters of the Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences (AOAS) here. The week-long course is aimed at training participants in running both private and public projects, as well as providing them with analytical and management skills. Participants will also discuss the experiences of the various Arab countries in the field of project management and working papers will further explore these themes. Taking part in this course will be senior officials in charge of project management in Arab countries.

Senate controversy over pension law

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) has approved ten controversial temporary laws relating to pensions as received with their amendments from the Lower House of Parliament.

During Thursday's session, which was chaired by its speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi in the presence of Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat and a number of ministers, the Upper House also approved a draft law endorsing the Jordanian-Iraqi border treaty of 1984, referred to it from the Lower House after the Senate unanimously agreed to make it a priority due to its importance.

Six laws and a draft law have also been referred by the Upper House to its Financial Committee while 26 temporary laws and a draft law have also been referred by the Senate to its Legal Committee in preparation for discussion.

The Upper House also held a lengthy debate on the decision of the joint committee of the house's Legal and Financial Committees regarding temporary laws relating to pensions referred to it by the Lower House. Before approving the law, the Senate members stressed that pensions should be given equally to all grades of employees in the civil service.

The draft law entitled senior government officials to receive, 125 per cent of the basic salary as their regular pension in addition to an extra pension.

The Senators' argument pointed out that to have the pension law equal to the social security law, which gives 120 per cent of the basic salary as a pension to all contributing employees, the extra pension for these officials should be abolished, thus making all citizens equal before the law. Finally the draft law was approved on a majority vote.

Also approved by the Upper House were the Financial Committee's decisions regarding the amending of two temporary laws on the Revenue Stamps Law as well as the amended law related to fees on local products.

37 injured in bus crash

AMMAN (J.T.) — At least 37 Egyptian nationals were injured in a road accident which occurred in the vicinity of H-4 (Al Rawaishdieh town) near the Iraqi-Jordanian border, according to a report in Al Dustour newspaper Thursday.

It said that the Egyptians were travelling Wednesday in an Iraqi bus from Baghdad to Jordan when a fault developed in one of the axles causing the driver to lose control of the vehicle resulting in its overturning while travelling at high speed.

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday

Al Ra'i: Tricks will not work

WITH THE first signs of relaxation in Lebanon, the Israeli mass media started to weep over the Shi'ite share in the Lebanese government, saying that they, other than others, have the right in the post of the prime minister. They imagine that through this cheap method, they can instigate the Lebanese Shi'ites to rally their forces and create an internal crisis for the Lebanese government, in addition to reviving secretarianism amongst the Lebanese government members.

It seems that Israel, which committed and is still committing the ugliest crimes in South Lebanon, thinks that those she is weeping over at the present, have foregotten its crimes. Perhaps Israel thinks that its nomination of a certain group to take over the premiership of the new Lebanese government, might move the passions of such a group and urge them to decrease their heroic resistance of the Israeli occupation forces.

Moreover, we believe that the Shi'ite leader Nabih Berri, to whom the Israeli authorities alluded, is stronger and is in possession of fine awareness that he cannot be caught in the Israeli trap. He will remain the obstinate antagonist to the Israeli occupation forces, and his men, as well as all Lebanese people, will continue fighting the Israeli forces everywhere in Lebanon.

Israel has caused havocs for many years on Lebanese soil, as no single Lebanese house has been safe from the mischief it caused.

If the Lebanese people are nowadays organising their affairs and arranging the Lebanese house then doubtlessly they will learn from the severe experiences they had with the Israelis over the past years. They will be able to defuse the sectarian bomb which Israel wants to see explode inside and outside the Lebanese cabinet. The aim of such a bomb is sabotaging the recovery of the Lebanese wound, and diverting the heroic Lebanese struggle into a factional fighting, thus reducing its casualties and defusing escalation of resistance in the South, often described as a Middle East Vietnam.

Sawt Al Saab: State terrorism

EVERY DAY, new facts about the nature of organised Zionist terror in the occupied Arab territories are disclosed. The Zionist terror has never been an accidental phenomenon for the Israelis, since it grew with their entity and derived its organisation characterisations from it.

Some of the Zionist terrorists who planned for and committed many criminal acts against residents of the occupied Arab territories, have unveiled many facts confirming the organic relation between the current Israeli government and the terrorist organisations. This relation reached an extent whereby an Israeli minister has described terrorism as a positive phenomenon in the Israeli policy.

The Israeli attempt to blast the Al Aqsa Mosque, killing civilians and placing explosives in mosques and schools, in addition to attacking mayors and patriotic groups are all chains in a series of organised terror by the Israeli leaders and the Zionist intellect.

The attempts by Prime Minister Shamir and his predecessor Begin to relinquish their responsibility for the great massacre which they committed against the Palestinian people and the holy places will not be accepted by any one whatever the justifications were. On the contrary, such apology indicates future practise of more terror and more bloodshed.

Israel wants to show indirectly it is unable to foil the terror drive to terror drive to terrorise the inhabitants of the occupied Arab land and consequently press them to leave their homeland, thus achieving its goal of liquidating the Palestinian existence on Palestinian soil.

Shamir does not know that terror, however escalated, will not be faced except by resistance and insistence by the people to restore the usurped rights.

Thursday

Al Ra'i: Criticism reaches U.S.

ARAB CRITICISM of U.S. policies in the Middle East has now spread to the United States itself, and it appears mostly among intellectuals. This is best manifested in an article published in the United States by Professor Michael Hudson from Georgetown University who said that U.S. policies are causing a great deal of damage to American interests and reputation of American people around the world. In his article, Dr. Hudson said that the U.S. will risk losing all of its credibility in the eyes of the Arabs if it persists in adopting a totally biased attitude towards Israel.

What Dr. Hudson said in his article reflects the true situation and underlines the failure of U.S. policies which favour Israel and the Jewish votes within the United States. But it is wrong for the Arabs to wait until a multitude of voices like that of Dr. Hudson gather force and impose their will over the American administration. This is because the Jewish voters have a strong arm within Congress. Divisions among Arab states do not encourage more such voices in the United States to appear, and because voices like that of Dr. Hudson are very few and can easily be overcome by the strong Zionist campaign. Therefore, the Arabs ought to act now if their own voices are to be heard around the world.

Al Dustour: Counter-terror

IT SEEMS that Col. Qadhafi has succeeded this time in crushing an attempt on his life and on his regime. But he was unable to convince the Libyan people of the true reasons behind such an attempt and its objectives.

Of course it was quite simple for Qadhafi to blame the attack directed on his headquarters on "terrorists" coming from abroad, but this is very naive indeed, and such claims cannot counter the facts about the Libyan regime and its practices at home and abroad.

These claims do not help the Libyan people to understand the reasons behind Libya's isolation, but they are more likely to interpret the attack as a natural reply by Qadhafi's enemies to his long history of arbitrary measures directed against them inside Libya and abroad where death squads had been active to liquidate Qadhafi's opponents.

Qadhafi lacked no means for gaining the hostility of his own people nor does he lack the means of repression adopted by many a dictator before. Qadhafi has never respected the rights of his own people and never offered them freedom and democracy, and, therefore, the only reply this people had was counter-terror and counter attack. The Libyan people can never forget.

Qadhafi's practices against the people, his dissipation of wealth on trivial things and on evil purposes, and they will never forget his siding with Iran against Iraq and his undermining Arab solidarity and Arab summit conferences. Qadhafi has got the means for deceiving some of his people part of the time but this can not last for ever.

Sawt Al Shaab: No real difference

IN HIS election platform for the Israeli opposition Labour Party, Shimon Perez said that his party will remain committed to the settlement policies adopted by the Likud coalition.

This statement of course negates everything that had been said about the programmes of the Labour Party and its policies with regard to the future of the occupied Arab territories where the settlements had been established. The Arabs should not be taken in by claims that the Labour Party intends to give up Israel's settlement policies and should remember that it was the 1967 invasion of Arab lands under Labour that brought about the present Israeli settlement policies. It is in fact under the Labour government that settlements were started under the pretext of ensuring secure borders for the Zionist state.

It was Labour which advocated the idea of encircling Arab towns like Jerusalem with settlements in order to swallow up Arab land piece meal. Under Labour, Israel waged all its wars against the Arabs except the invasion of Lebanon, and the Labour governments had been able to win international support for Israel's expansionist designs and its aggression on Arab states.

One must not forget theat every Zionist, including members of the Labour Party, believes in Israel's rights to colonise Arab land in Palestine, Israel's promised land, and every Israeli is intent on driving the Arabs out of their homeland to build settlements.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

By Franz Schurmann

Some Americans realise the trouble behind Israel

SAN FRANCISCO — The only political news one sees in the U.S. media these days is about the presidential race. The election is far away in November, but the press seems to think that presidential politics makes good news. That means it will help sell newspapers.

On the Republican side, the candidate, is Reagan. He appears frequently on TV, and seems remarkably healthy and in command of himself for a man who is 73 years old. On the Democratic side, the race has reduced itself to three men: Mondale, Hart, and Jackson. Mondale is an old liberal; Hart a new liberal; and Jackson is black and is getting the majority of the black vote.

Why should anyone outside the U.S. care who gets elected in November? How does the race affect the Middle East? In terms of U.S. politics, the question can be answered by looking at the candidates' position on Israel. Mondale is so linked to Israel that he could easily be called Israel's delegate for the U.S. presidency. Hart has lately tried to show that he too is pro-Israel but most people perceive him as not passionate on the issue. That does not mean he would tilt towards the Arabs, but that, in words anyway, he is not totally in the Israeli camp. And then there is Jackson. He has in the past shown his sympathy for the Palestinians. The U.S. media have recently gone through a phase exposing some supposedly anti-Jewish remarks made by Jackson. And now there is a campaign denouncing one of his closest supporters, a Louis Farrakhan, who heads a small but strong faction of the U.S. "Black Muslim" movement that still holds whites to be devils (the bulk of the Black Muslim movement have now completely renounced any form of racism). Farrakhan apparently made some remarks praising Hitler, equivalent in the U.S. political vocabulary to attacking Jews.

Jackson was at first stunned by these attacks, but he has now gone on the offensive. But Middle Easterners would be disappointed. He has not decided to deal directly with the Middle Eastern issue, but rather to denounce Reagan on his Central American policies.

But Jackson's strategy is to appeal to many non-black Mondale and Hart supporters who might be pro-Israel but also oppose the U.S. getting further involved in Central American wars.

As to Reagan, he has nothing to say on the Middle East. He briefly decided to blame the Democrats for undercutting his Lebanon policy. The Middle East is rarely mentioned by the Republicans. Instead Reagan has been to China where he could gain credit as the U.S. public saw America's most anti-Communist president shake hands, smilingly, with the Communist leaders of China.

It looks increasingly like re-election for Ronald Reagan. Will that matter to the people of the Middle East? All things considered, it will be better. A Mondale victory would give the waning Israeli grip on U.S. politics a shot in the arm. Even though Hart is less pro-Israeli, if nominated, he will need pro-Israeli money and support to get elected. And Jackson has no chance of winning the nomination, and none of forcing any change in the solid pro-Israeli position of the Democratic Party.

Even though there are signs that Reagan might step up U.S. military activity in Central America, it is doubtful he would do so in the Middle East. Reagan was politically hurt by the fiasco of sending troops to Beirut. There always is a possibility of U.S. forces moving in if the Iran-Iraq war should take a dangerous turn, but Middle Easterners might remember that the U.S. still has painful memories of endless war in Indochina.

The main thing about Reagan, so far as the Middle East is concerned, is that his earlier enthusiasm for Israel has cooled down a lot. He still makes gestures to Israel but not as whole-heartedly as in aid? Is there not a U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance? True enough.

But somehow an awareness has been creeping through that Israel in West Asia is a lot like Taiwan in East Asia. Both mean trouble for the U.S. Reagan, by going to China, has now finally admitted that China is more important to the U.S. than Taiwan. It is pretty certain that plenty of U.S. officials are beginning to have similar thoughts about Israel, and not just in the State Department.

NATO having difficult time getting cruises into Holland

By Peter Calvert
Reuter

THE HAGUE — With the deadline for a decision on whether cruise missiles are to be sited in the Netherlands just seven weeks away, the Dutch government faces a growing crisis on how to reconcile deep disagreements over the weapons.

During increasingly anxious discussions in recent weeks, the coalition cabinet has made virtually no progress towards a compromise on deployment, well-informed political sources say.

Instead, the final decision, on which both the fate of the centre-right government and of NATO unity on nuclear weapons appears to hang, has come to depend on the strength of views and character of a few key men in the cabinet and parliament.

In cabinet, opposition to the missiles from Defence Minister Job de Ruiter has become a major stumbling block, while in parliament, a few waverers among the ruling Christian Democrats (CDA) hold the key to a majority on the issue, the sources say.

The Netherlands is the last of five nations in the Atlantic alliance to decide whether to deploy medium-range nuclear missiles as part of a NATO strategy. The others, Britain, West Germany, Italy and Belgium are already deploying or have agreed to do so.

Senior officials from other NATO countries allege any failure by the Dutch to deploy the 48 missiles they have been allocated, would be a major blow to alliance strategy, reducing the incentive for Moscow to return to the negotiating table. They fear it would also strengthen anti-missile movements in other West European countries.

Unless the Dutch CDA-Liberal coalition can agree some form of deployment, it will be in grave danger of falling apart.

Uncertainty over whether it can survive is already damaging business confidence, bankers say. Despite good economic news, potential investors, especially from abroad, are holding back to await the outcome of the cruise debate. Lack of demand on the stock market also reflects worries over cruise, dealers claim.

Until recently, the coalition showed impressive confidence and unity, pushing through a massive programme of spending cuts to restore government finances despite union opposition.

But Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers and his colleagues have appeared far less adept over cruise siting, reflecting their limited room for manoeuvre on the issue, commentators agree.

In past weeks, a wide range of suggested compromises have been discussed by the cabinet and leaked to the press.

All have been opposed, however, by either the CDA, Liberals or some of the ministers most closely involved.

In a nation opposed to militarism and divided over all things nuclear, it has long been predicted that the coalition, formed with a narrow majority after elections in late 1982, would face problems on the missiles deployment sought by NATO.

But its difficulties have become particularly acute because key figures have proved less willing to shift their position than expected.

The Liberals, with 36 members of parliament (MPs) have resolutely demanded that deployment go ahead, threatening resignation from the cabinet unless it meets a June 30 deadline it has set for a decision.

But of 43 CDA MPs, around eight are against deployment and at least five are uncertain, politicians say. The cabinet can rely on six members of small right-wing parties to support cruise, but it can afford a maximum of only nine CDA defections if it is to keep a majority in the 150-seat parliament.

The anti-nuclear wing of the CDA, backed by strong Dutch Church organisations as well as the pacifist movement, argues that NATO's strategy of forcing Moscow to remove SS-20 rockets through the threat of counter deployment has already failed.

In these circumstances, the cabinet is seeking a compromise which might win over the CDA waverers.

Almost all ministers support deployment, with foreign minister Hans Van Den Broek championing the crusade of NATO, political sources say. But the opposition of De Ruiter, a CDA minister, is crucial since unless he accepts a compromise, there is little chance of it winning sufficient CDA support.

The variety of suggested compromises, known here as variants, which have been discussed in recent weeks emphasises the depth of the cabinet's problem.

The CDA's parliamentary leadership at one stage argued for siting less than 48 missiles. But this plan has faded into the background as it does little to solve the principles at stake.

Another well-publicised idea, dismissed as "outlandish" by one NATO diplomat here and vigorously rejected both by the Liberals and NATO allies, was for the Netherlands to store its cruise missiles in another NATO country. They would then be flown in if an East-West crisis arose.

Other variants have involved reducing Dutch minor nuclear tasks in NATO or placing other conditions on the siting of cruise.

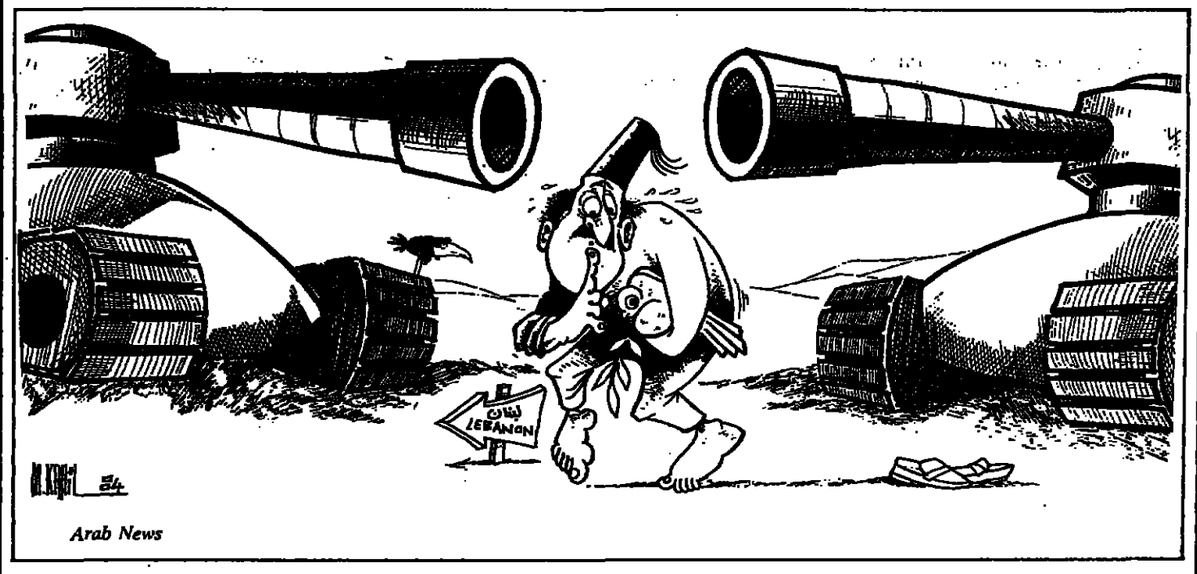
The cabinet is now studying an amalgam of some of these, under which it would begin building cruise bunkers at a base at Woensdrecht in the south of the country but make actual siting dependent on developments in East-West arms talks. Deployment might then not be confirmed until 1985 or later.

This proposal is still opposed by De Ruiter, who accepts only that the U.S. flag could fly over Woensdrecht as a "symbol of the alliance," but that building work should not start, political sources say. This variant is known contemptuously among cruise supporters in The Hague as the "flagpole idea".

With the cabinet's alternatives rapidly narrowing, some politicians suggest it may seek further postponement of a decision, despite ministers' statements that further delay would mean the Netherlands falling behind NATO's deployment schedule. The Liberals insist they would view this as a "grave step."

In April, Mr. Lubbers warned that his cabinet was in serious danger of falling on the issue. Last week, he said: "Everything is possible, nothing is probable."

It was one of the few statements on cruise that almost all Dutch people can agree with.



Arab News

EC faces problems in favouring Hungary

Current negotiations between the European Economic Community (EEC)and Hungary show how hard it can be to translate Ostpolitik into practice. **David Buchan** *reports.*

LONDON—"Differentiation" is the new buzzword of Western officials in describing policy towards Eastern Europe. The aim is to give better treatment to those East European countries whose policies are relatively more pleasing to the West, and so, perhaps, to give them more economic, if not political, freedom of manoeuvre from Moscow. But the current negotiations between the European Community and Hungary show how hard it can be to translate theory into practice.

The EEC has had an Ostpolitik policy since 1974 when it offered to negotiate a trade agreement with any "state-trading" country that wanted one. For a time, in the late 1970s, the EEC sought a general agreement with the other big European trading bloc, Comecon, but eventually gave up, realising that Comecon, which has no common commercial regime or tariff, had no comparable concessions to offer Brussels. Apart from the special cases of China and Yugoslavia, the only Comecon country to have concluded a bilateral trade accord with the EEC is Romania in 1980, and that accord covers only industrial goods.

So, when Hungary first started sounding out Brussels two years ago, the time seemed to have come for the EEC to play a major role in the "differentiation" strategy. Hungary, unlike Romania, is a solid Soviet ally; yet its relative political moderation and intriguing market-oriented economic reforms seemed likely to persuade EEC member governments to grant Hungary more concessions than they gave to Romania. This is now in some doubt.

Few Western officials dispute that Hungary is, in principle, the Eastern country most deserving of favourable treatment. Nor do they underestimate the possible consequences for EEC Ostpolitik of an EEC-Hungarian trade deal. It might prompt other East European countries like Poland and Czechoslovakia, which have so far signed sectoral (steel and textiles) agreements only with the EEC, to approach Brussels for similar general trading pacts.

It is even thought possible that, precisely to head off an EEC-Hungarian accord, the Soviet Union might get the Moscow-based Comecon secretariat to reply to the EEC's unanswered 1981 initiative for an EEC-Comecon agreement on such non-trade matters as swaps of statistical and environmental information.

Nevertheless there is a wide gulf, to the annoyance of the Hungarians, between general expressions of support for Hungary from Western leaders who have been recently trooping off to Budapest, and practical concessions on the table in Brussels.

Inside the EEC, Britain, West Germany and France are the most enthusiastic about Hungary's terms and Italy and Ireland the most reluctant to agree. A large measure of self-interest is involved. Britain has relatively little trade which would be affected by concessions to Budapest, and is therefore easily able to argue that Hungarian economic reforms deserve bolstering by the EEC.

Ireland, on the other hand, opposes better Hungarian access to the EEC beef market, while Italy has the longest list of restrictions on Hungarian industrial goods. Individual EEC governments maintain quotas on Hungarian industrial goods in 1,794 categories, and more than half these quotas are imposed by Italy alone. EEC countries like Italy thus naturally take a more cynical view of the Hungarian economic reforms and the political utility of the EEC supporting them.

This is no more than the usual internal EEC sparring on any external negotiation. But what makes negotiating with a Comecon country special is the country's political sensitivity to what its partners, particularly Moscow, think. Hungarian ministers deny that the reason why they went silent on the EEC issue for two months this spring was to test the wind in Moscow after President Kostantin Chernenko assumed power; but the EEC sees no other explanation.

Whatever Budapest's motives then, it has now resumed informal discussions. With the EEC at "expert" level. Mr. Peter Veress, the Hungarian trade minister, says Hungary wants to be able to see the shape of a possible agreement before entering formal and published negotiations.

To the EEC, this is prejudging the outcome; to Hungarian officials, it is a sound precaution. They want to guard their flank against taunting from Comecon partners that Hungary has signed an accord of political advantage to the West and of little economic benefit to itself.

Hungary is seeking from the EEC:

— Abolition of the import quotas whihc EEC members impose nationally on Hungary, as on all "state-trading" countries.

— Preferential tariff treatment, in return for which Hungary is ready to lower its tariffs, but without giving "effective reciprocity" or the fixed guarantee of increased imports from the EEC which Brussels normally demands from "state-trading" countries.

— Better access for Hungarian food.

All three demands pose problems. Brussels hints of some flexibility on the tariff reciprocity and agricultural issues, but regards total abolition of Hungary's EEC quotas as quite unrealistic. Hardest for the EEC to swallow is the principle that Hungary is no longer a conventional Comecon "state-trader".

Agreeing that Hungary is dismantling part of its central planning apparatus is one thing; conceding formally that it has totally done so is quite another, it is argued in Brussels. In practice, it would mean changing the way the EEC measures whether or not Hungary is dumping goods.

Making an exception of Hungary and giving it the sort of EEC trade deal which non-aligned Yugoslavia has got would also create complaints from Romania that its 1980 deal is inadequate and from countries like Austria and Switzerland that their trading advantages with the EEC are being neutralised. At this price, an agreement with Hungary probably does not look worth while. — Financial Times news feature.

Somewhere in Lebanon where all live in peace

By John Winn Miller
Associated Press

BEIRUT — Along the northwest beak of this war-divided city, where a spring ambles to the sea, lies an island of religious harmony.

Like all of Beirut, Ain Mreisse has seen its share of shelling and firefights during generations of sectarian warfare. But the community founded by the Phoenicians in what is now mostly Muslim West Beirut has managed to protect itself and its unique identity.

"We're a little protected enclave," said Genevieve Maxwell, a 77-year-old American who has lived near the Ain, or spring, for 20 years.

The petite blonde waved her hand from her rooftop balcony at highrises and small stone apartment houses over less than a square kilometre, naming each of her neighbours. They included Americans, Britons, Swedes, Swiss, Kurds, Armenians and Lebanese of all types.

"We are everything here: Druze, Muslim, Christians," she said proudly.

Religious differences that have torn Lebanon apart are left behind within Ain Mreisse amid the talk of the tanned fishermen, shopowners or even militiamen — mostly Druze members of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) — who control the neighbourhood.

"This is a new habit to say Sunni or Shi'ite," said Khalid Abdul Sattar, a Sunni Muslim shop owner, when asked his religion.

The narrow streets at the bottom of a small rise, where shopowners catch the morning sun from their doorways, form a self-contained polyglot city with boutiques, family-run groceries, coffee shops and restaurants.

"We live like brothers here and help each other," said Pren Mukhi, a Hindu from Bombay, India, who has lived 35 of his 55 years running a gift shop along the corniche.

Next door is Levon Sarafian, a 66-year-old car salesman, an Anglican and an Armenian.

He pointed to a pistol-packing Shi'ite Muslim militiaman of the local PSP sitting next to him and said: "This so-and-so has opposite views from me but we are like brothers. I am very frank and I don't care because I am not afraid here."

Sarafian's family was among the first Armenians from Turkey to settle here 100 years ago and he is fiercely proud of his heritage. But now he is Lebanese.

"Ain Mreisse has always been a bit apart," he said while adjusting thick bifocals beneath his white hair. "I will never leave."

"You won't find anything like this anywhere else in Beirut," said a 27-year-old car rental agent who, asked to be identified only as Rafick. "It is one of the only remaining of the real Beirut neighbourhoods, like it used to be."

He is a Roman Catholic who says he was beaten and kicked out of Christian-ruled East Beirut because "I don't give a damn about religion. I see no differences."

He said the local Druze PSP militia leader, Saleh Deek looks after his neighbourhood. Once during the 1982 Israeli invasion there was no bread in West Beirut.

"So Saleh sent me to the East side to buy bread on his own (charge) account. Then his men distributed it free, first to the Christians. The Muslims got what was left."

A Greek Orthodox Christian Lebanese, who owns a marine shop, cried as he told of receiving the bread.

"They gave it to us and wouldn't let us pay," he said as his Muslim wife looked on. He asked not to be named because he does business on both sides of the "green line" that divides Beirut.

He moved into the neighbourhood in the early 1950s and quickly learned that here "you are no longer a Muslim or Christian. You are of Ain Mreisse. It is something unimaginable."

As an example, he told of how the whole neighbourhood turned out for the funeral of his father, who died on the East side but wanted to be buried at Ain Mreisse.

But he was most touched by a little thing that happened during the heaviest fighting of the 1975-76 civil war.

One of his two dogs was hit by a jeep while he was away. His wife had no car and no way to manoeuvre through the shifting battle zones to find a veterinarian.

"It was the militiamen who picked up the dog, who was there and kept biting them. They took it and my wife to the vet. And that was only for a dog. Can you imagine that?"

Ain Mreisse has not escaped the war untouched. But residents say the local militiamen try to keep it apart by blocking off access roads and posting guards around the buildings, particularly where foreigners live.

Then there was the 1983 bombing of the nearby American embassy that killed 63. Residents point out that it happened only after the Druze embassy guards were replaced by Lebanese army forces. Now, the PSP guards the embassy area along with others.

كوكتا من الأصل

Cold war going on between smokers and non-smokers

By Lee Rudakewych
Reuter

NEW YORK — In a 1926 magazine advertisement, a young man lights up a Chesterfield cigarette as his girlfriend coos, "Blow some my way." Today, anyone who lights up in a public place had best take care whose way he blows the smoke. There is a war on over breathing space.

It is a cold war, but the skirmishes get hot at times: There have been fights between puffers and nonsmokers — kicking, punching, screaming brawls — in restaurants, elevators, buses, theatres and other closed spaces.

One such quarrel, in the cabin of a flight to Washington, led to fisticuffs in the aisle. The outraged pilot brought the plane down in Baltimore.

According to the American Council on Science and Health in New York, 55 million people in the United States — a quarter of the population — smoke, and 300,000 of them die each year from diseases caused by cigarettes: Cancer of the lung and heart, heart disease, emphysema, chronic bronchitis and peptic ulcers.

"Many nonsmokers are annoyed by cigarette smoke and may experience unpleasant symptoms such as watery eyes and headache," a council pamphlet says.

"Certain individuals, such as those with heart or lung diseases, contact-lens-wearers and allergic or asthmatic persons, may be more sensitive to smoke than others. They may experience a worsening of disease symptoms or other problems when exposed to ambient tobacco smoke."

Last month, the 100th anniversary of the cigarette machine, the council asked six American tobacco companies to pay every American $3,959 — his share of the total cost to the U.S. economy of cigarette-related diseases in the last 20 years.

The Tobacco Institute, which has always insisted there is no proof that smoking kills, promptly denounced the council's move as "outlandish, unbelievable and unworthy of serious consideration."

The smoking war has been fought in recent years with writs and bills, with less rancor and more effect than fists: Some 30 states have enacted laws restricting smoking, and some counties and cities have passed their own statutes.

Here is a sample of recent measures around the country:

— San Francisco passed one of the most far-reaching and most bitterly opposed anti-smoking measures adopted by any American city. The restrictions were endorsed despite a 1.2-million-dollar campaign funded largely by tobacco companies.

The bill, which became law on March 1, requires employers to designate smoking and nonsmoking areas or make other arrangements agreeable to both camps.

Nonsmokers got the edge in disputes. If even one worker objects to smoking in the workplace, all smoking must stop.

This last provision brought many complaints. "I'll have to quit my job," insurance worker Shirley Burton said. "There's one woman who is adamant about my smoking."

The measure is being enforced by city health inspector Bruce Tsutsui, who smokes half a packet a day.

— Miami will prohibit smoking on its $1 billion metrorail rapid transit system when it goes into service on May 20. The county commissioners would not ban cigarette advertising on the trains, however, on counsel's advice that to do so may be unconstitutional.

— St. Louis has no smoking law, but more and more restaurants are curbing the weed on their own. "The nonsmokers' room fills up first," said Atiba Nickens, owner of the Sunshine Inn. "We have a lot of customers who are coming back more frequently."

The Lung Association of Eastern Missouri will put out a directory of such restaurants this year.

— Minnesota is said to have the toughest state anti-smoking law. The clean indoor air act of 1975 bans smoking indoors except in private homes, but allows smoking areas in other buildings. Fines for violations range up to $100.

Top enforcer Charles Schneider said the state has threatened a few companies with injunctions, "but generally people co-operate, and it hasn't been that much trouble."

— Suffolk County, New York, voted in March for one of the most restrictive bills in the country — and the state's first — but the county executive vetoed in a month later because it set "arbitrary and irrational classifications".

The measure required employers of more than 75 people to segregate smokers and nonsmokers, and restaurants seating 35 or more to set aside one-third of the tables for nonsmokers.

AARC celebrates its twentieth anniversary

NEW YORK — The American-Arab Relations Committee will celebrate its twentieth anniversary on May 12, 1984. The occasion marks twenty years of struggle against "Ra'as al-Hayyah al-Sahyouniyya" according to Dr. Mohammad Mehdi, the founder and president of the organisation.

Dr. Mehdi's theory is that Zionism is similar to a snake with its head in America and tail in Palestine and the Arab East. The Arabs have been fighting the tail of the snake, not its head, and that is the reason for Arab failure and Israeli expansionism, he maintains.

The following article, prepared by AARC, reviews broadly the rise and activities of the first American-Arab organisation which challenged "Ra'as al-Hayyah" in its home base.

THE AMERICAN-Arab Relations Committee was established in 1964 to provide an instrument to interpret the Arab World to the American people and to explain America to the Arab World. Its purpose was to improve the relations between the two peoples and bring better understanding of each other. Zionist intolerance and Arab inaction were the immediate causes for the creation of the Organisation.

The 1964 New York World's Fair was a festive occasion, except for Zionist attempts to force the president of the fair, Robert Moses, to remove from the Jordan pavilion a mural depicting a Palestinian refugee. This effort by the American Jewish Congress, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and other Zionist organisations to suppress the First Amendment to the American Constitution in the interest of Israel was "completely unacceptable to a civil libertarian like me," says Dr. M.T. Mehdi, the founder and president of the American-Arab Relations Committee.

The Zionist groups threatened to picket the Jordan pavilion and its director, Mohammad Baghal. This was such an assault upon my commitment to a free society that I woke up in the middle of the night, May 18, and sent a telegram to the President of the fair, requesting permission to picket the Israeli pavilion if Zionist groups were permitted to picket the Jordan pavilion, Dr. Mehdi recalls. "It was then, in the middle of the night, that the first American Arab organisation to stand up for the mutual American-Arab cause was born," he said.

The sudden appearance of an Arab organisation from nowhere to challenge the Zionist establishments shook up the comfortable Zionist headquarters in New York. Their monopoly on "truth" was being chipped away by the new organisation through a policy of confrontation.

The news of the new organisation (then named Action Committee on American-Arab Relations) was front page story everywhere. When AARC picketed the offices of the American Jewish Congress and the Anti-Defamation League on May 26, 1964, "it took courage, stubborness, guts and *chutspa*," Dr. Mehdi related. But above all, "if it were not for my commitment to the First Amendment, I doubt I would have had the courage to picket the headquarters of the two major Jewish establishments" in a city, nicknamed as Tel Aviv on the Hudson, Dr. Mehdi recalls. At any rate, our efforts were successful. The Jordan mural stayed in the fair. We had our first victory over intolerance!

It is in order, twenty years later, to reveal the names of the founders of the American-Arab Relations Committee. In those days it was not wise to be associated publically with an Arab organisation. *Indeed the word "Arab" was a* dirty word and even the Palestinians used to call themselves "Jordanians." Today, happily, many Arabs have come out of their closets and it is fashionable to be "pro-Arab," Dr. Mehdi explained.

The founders of the organisation include the late Dr. Fayez A. Sayegh, Professor Philip K. Hitti, Dr. Frank Sakran, Dr. Husni Khalifa, Omar Azzouni, Abdullah Ijram. It also included Raji Daher, Issa Nakhla, Ghazi Khankan, Subhi Shuman, Abdul Kader Al Kaysi, Mohammad Al Jaloudi (who was the first person to contribute financially to the organisation), Dr. Fouad Al Akel, John Leavy, the late Yusuf Yassin (of Beit Hanina), Alli Akel, the Ghannams of Deirdibwan, and the Isamail family (Shukri, Jabur and Mohammad) and the Palestine Trading Company (of Al Bira, Palestine).

And in a peculiar way some of the Zionist leaders in New York can be considered as "founders" of AARC. Will Maslow, Joachim Prinz, Morris Abram, Theodore Bickel, Arnold Forster and Benjamin Epstein and Howard Squadron are wonderful individuals with schizophrenic personalities. They are liberal and humanists on all issues, and bigoted and intolerant with anything Arab. In their attempts to suppress the Arab viewpoint in this country, they provided the opportunity for the new Arab organisation to present the Arab voice on radio and television across the nation, louder and louder! "The message for everyone is: Do not ever try to suppress an idea!" But will the Zionists ever learn? Dr. Mehdi advises and exclaims!

In the early 1960's, Dr. Mehdi appeared on radio and television talk shows, and was subjected to abusive language and ugly attacks. He appeared on the talk shows of Joe Pine, Alan Burke, Barry Aray and "his uncouth manner", Bob Grant and Candy Jones "a beautiful, but completely ignorant woman." Barry Farber, whose commitment to the freedom of speech had invited the Arab spokesman to appear on his show, described the situation in these terms, "In those days the Arab spokesman was considered an offbeat person, to be tolerated, but not respected."

Recalling his experiences on the talk shows, Dr. Mehdi says, "I took the abuse, long hours, night after nights. I had to be polite, firm and courteous in presenting the Arab viewpoint. I took the ugly attacks to make the point that there was an Arab voice and that it had to be heard." Today there are hundreds of Arab spokespersons appearing on national radio and television "and I am gratified." Dr. Mehdi expresses his satisfaction.

The American-Arab Relations Committee sent delegations to the State Department, the White House, the Pentagon. It met with American Ambassadors at the United Nations, including Arthur J. Goldberg, William Scranton, Danial Patrick Moynihan and Andrew Young.

Delegations from the organisation visited the Arab World and met with Arab kings and heads of state, including King Faisal, King Khalid and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, King Hussein, President Nasser of Egypt, President Assad of Syria, President Hawari Boumedien of Algeria, President Qadhafi of Libya, President Baker of Iraq, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait, Sheikh Issa Al Khalifa of Bahrain, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani of Qatar, and Sheikh Zayed bin Nahyan, president of the United Arab Emirates. Dr. Mehdi usually headed the delegations and on several occasions he addressed the Council of Arab Foreign Ministers and the Council of Arab Ministers of Information.

The major concern of the AARC delegations has been the question of better American-Arab understanding and peace in Palestine. To this effect they proposed to the Arab kings and presidents that they should divert five to 10 per cent of their military budget to be used for information about the Arab cause in America and Western Europe, and to allocate 20 to 30 per cent of their military budget for peaceful economic boycott of Israel.

In the historic meeting in 1967 with Ambassador Goldberg, AARC delegation proposed a humanitarian campaign to be headed by Mr. Goldberg to help the Israeli Jews who wish to leave Israel to North America and elsewhere to be assisted to do so. The American-Arab organisation offered to raise $10 million for this project if Mr. Goldberg and Jewish organisations were willing to do likewise.

On the national level, American-Arab Relations Committee has been advocating a policy of stopping all American military aid to the Arabs (which is about $5 million a day) and to Israel (about $15 million daily). Whenever a proposal was made by the White House to sell military equipment to the Arabs, AARC opposed such proposals on the ground that "peace in the Middle East will not be established as the result of Arab armament, but rather through Israeli and general disarmament.

The unorthodox activities and demands of the new organisation brought violent Zionist reaction. The offices of the organisation were ransacked and burned and Dr. Mehdi and his colleagues Ghazi Khankan and Rebhi Rabie were assaulted and taken to the hospital several times.

The American-Arab spokesman and his colleagues were also taken to police stations and the courts several times. "We had committed no crimes, except that we had challenged Zionist establishments in New York and that evidently was our crime!" Dr. Mehdi says. He also revealed recently, "The government of the United States was fighting me for twenty years to deport me because I was the spokesman for the Palestine cause." We were successful in all these cases and our success is a tribute to the rule of law in America which is stronger than all the Zionist power, he declared.

The organisation and its founder are fully committed to the constitutional injunction concerning the separation between religion and state. As disestablishmentarians they have opposed the idea of a "Christian" state or a "Muslim" state or a "Jewish" state as basically undemocratic because such states give an *a priori* privileged position to their Christian or Muslim or Jewish citizens.

On the basic issue of the Middle East, the Question of Palestine, AARC has proposed a solution which peacefully resolves the conflict and takes into consideration the human rights and needs of all parties.

The solution proposed starts *from the assumption that the people* of Palestine (Arab Muslims, Christians and Jews) have the right to their land of Palestine. On the other hand, the Zionist Jews from Brooklyn, New York, or Lima, Peru, or Warsaw, Poland, or Ribat, Morocco do not enjoy the same right.

If the Jews of Los Angeles, California have the *right* to occupy Palestine (on the basis of whatever argument), then the people of Palestine have the *duty* to give up their land to the man from Los Angeles. If the Palestinian refuses or resists, the man from Los Angeles (or Poland or wherever) has *the right to force the Palestinian* out of his homeland! To accept such an argument is to recognise the "right" to commit aggression!

"A right to commit aggression does not exist: the logic of the Zionists is absurd and will never be accepted," the Arab American spokesman declared. Recently Dr. Mehdi was asked on a national television programme, "Do you recognise the right of Israel to exist?" The answer came in the form of a question, "Do you mean whether I recognise the right of the Zionist Jews of Brooklyn, N.Y. to occupy Palestine?"

The Jews have no "right" to occupy Palestine. But what they do have is a human "need" for an Israel and the land of Palestine. This is in contrast to the Palestinians who have the right to their land of Palestine. Hence, we must recognise the human need of the Jews and the human rights of the Palestinians. Dr. Mehdi maintains.

A new political structure should be established in Palestine for *all* the Palestinians and *all* the Jews (including the Jews of America). The new polity should not be tagged as Jewish, Christian, or Muslim state. Of course, it should be ruled by majority in the best tradition of democracy, leaving the doors wide open for various minority political groupings to become majority.

The new state should have two names. To satisfy the Jewish human need for "Israel," it should be called Israel and to satisfy Palestinian human right, it should be called Palestine. This proposal will bring peace and justice to Palestine and stability to the Middle East, Dr. Mehdi declares.

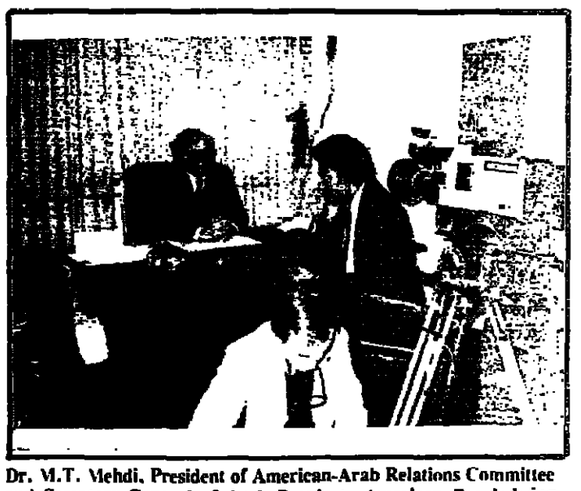
The road to peace in Palestine is *via* Washington, D.C. through the American public opinion. AARC literature proclaims. The goal of the organisation is to reach 51 per cent of the American public in the interest of better relations between the Arab and American peoples and peace in Palestine.

During the last twenty years there have been important changes on the American scene concerning the Arabs, the Middle East and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. "When I started the movement in America in the early 60's, the support for the Arab cause was less than zero. Today it has improved and reached 12 per cent plus! This is not so much to due the efforts of the American-Arab Relations Committee and the other recently established pro-Arab organisations. The change has come, thanks to the fact that America is an open society. An open society is, happily, not a perfect society. But it is open to change, gradual, slowly and surely, Dr. Mehdi, who taught American Constitutional law at Berkeley some thirty years ago, says again and again.

This change, which is inevitable, will effect America and its policy towards the Middle East. The United States will stop its military aid to Israel and its military sales to the Arabs. The inevitable process of change will lead to the emancipation of American public opinion and the American politician from Zionist pressure. The liberation of Palestine will follow, and with that comes the liberation of the Jews. The liberation of Palestine will liberate the Jews from an historic complex of some two thousands years during which they have been considered either better or worse than the rest of mankind. The fact that the Jews are part of the human race, no more and no less, will be universally recognised. The Jewish Question will be solved!

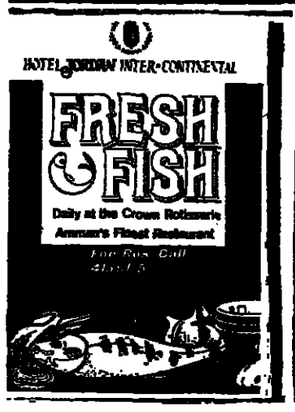
The liberation of the Jews and other subjects of prejudice and counter-prejudice will pave the way for permanent international peace, Dr. Mehdi believes.

—AARC report.



Dr. M.T. Mehdi, President of American-Arab Relations Committee and Secretary-General of Arab People to American People being interviewed by ABC News before his departure to Damascus to secure the release of U.S. Navy Lt. Robert Goodman.

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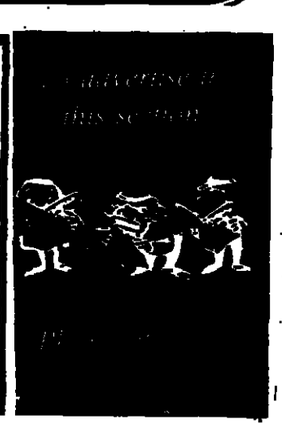
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Haddad steers Toyota to Jordan National Rally victory

By Anne Counsell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanian George Haddad, driving a Toyota Celica Rally with Nabil Haddad as co-driver, won the fourth Jordanian National Rally Friday beating Antony Walker and Gordon MacKenzie into second place by one minute and 58 seconds.

The winner, who has had three years of experience in Jordanian rallies has come first, second and been a "Class" winner in previous events here.

Antony Walker has also been competing in national rallies for three years but has not yet won an event although he was runner-up last year.

Tareq Bilbeisi, driving a Toyota Corolla GT, won the "Novice" class, beating Mohammad Wardeh in a Datsun 180 B. Winner of the last National Rally, David Jepson, came first in "Class 1" — cars up to 1300cc — driving a Toyota Starlet with fiancee Barbara Longhurst as co-driver. "Although Jepson has 12 years of rallying experience, the fast, specialised rally cars had the advantage over the rough ground," George Haddad told the Jordan Times. This was proved by the results, as all winners in the "Expert Group" drove purpose-built cars.

Organised by the Royal Automobile Club (RAC) and sponsored by Beit El Mal Saving and Investment for Housing Co. Limited, the Fourth Jordanian National Rally covered a total distance of 210 kilometres which included 91 kilometres of "special stages" through the desert and on unsurfaced roads. The purpose-built cars were best suited to the fast, long and uneven stretches of the "special stages," attaining speeds of up to 220 kilometres per hour.

The afternoon's return journey along the same route also contained a few spills. Nabil Al Saheb driving a Datsun 160 J SSS overturned on the return to the RAC and His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah unfortunately had a breakdown in his Toyota Corolla GT on the final special stage at Tuneib near the Queen Alia International Airport.

Prince Abdullah, who was competing in his second rally, had been progressing well until his car's axle broke. In an interview with the Jordan Times, he said that the Fourth National Rally was very tough due to the speed over rough ground. Unfortunately, Prince Abdullah will not be taking part in the International Rally to be held in July as he will be on military exercises.

The rally drew large crowds which viewed the event from roadsides and at the special stages. Numerous bedouin tending their sheep were somewhat bemused by the spectacle of highly-tuned cars speeding through the desert whilst lorry drivers along the desert highway were not so congenial. A small scuffle broke out between one driver and rally officials along the route but was smoothed over.

Friday's results

Expert Group

1. George Haddad and Nabil Haddad (Toyota Celica Rally); 50 minutes 45 seconds.
2. Antony Walker and Gordon Mackenzie (Nissan 240 RS); 52 minutes 47 seconds.
3. Ziad Bustami and Mutaz Dikr (Nissan 240 RS); 55 minutes 59 seconds.
4. Haile Aguilar and Gonzalo Aguilar (Toyota Celica Rally); 57 minutes 53 seconds.
5. Suhail Marar and Giries Sawalha (Toyota Corolla GT); 58 minutes 36 seconds.

Novice Group

1. Tareq Bilbeisi and Hanna Zananiri (Toyota Corolla GT); One hour, six minutes, 38 seconds.
2. Mohammad Wardeh and Khaled Mufti (Datsun 180 B); one hour, 25 minutes, 22 seconds.
3. Ghassan Zmily and Maher Nabulsi (Toyota Corolla) one hour, 45 minutes, 44 seconds.

Class Winners

Class 1 (All cars up to 1300 cc) — David Jepson
Class 2. (Cars over 1300 cc and up to 1600 cc) — Suhail Marar
Class 3. (Cars over 1600 cc up to 2000 cc) — George Haddad
Class 4. (All cars over 2000 cc) — Antony Walker

U.S. guarantees should satisfy Moscow, Olympic chief says

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch said Friday that new U.S. guarantees should satisfy Moscow's grievances over security at the Los Angeles Olympics.

He also pledged to "fight to the last minute" to persuade the Soviets to attend.

Samaranch said he had called an extraordinary meeting of the Olympic movement in Lausanne on Friday to discuss the crisis caused by the Soviet decision not to attend the games.

However, before then he wanted to go to Moscow to see President Konstantin Chernenko with what he described as a very important letter from President Reagan. He said the letter, the text of which was released here, gave all the assurances on security for which Moscow was asking.

"In the present critical situation these guarantees from the president of the United States are a new element," Samaranch told a press conference. He said he had requested the meeting to try to persuade the Soviet leader to change his decision on the Los Angeles Games.

Samaranch told a press conference he had invited the Los Angeles organisers, and the Soviet and U.S. Olympic committees to attend next Friday's special meeting of the IOC's executive board.

Though he thought the Reagan letter gave all necessary assurances, Samaranch made clear that he believed anti-Soviet organisations in the U.S. were still a serious problem.

"These small associations are doing the Olympic movement a great deal of harm," he said.

The Reagan letter handed to Samaranch in the White House meeting last Tuesday said: "The United States is totally committed to upholding the Olympic Charter and fulfilling its responsibilities as the host nation of the games."

"The Olympic Games should not be used for political purposes. Athletes and Olympic officials of all countries will find a warm welcome in Los Angeles and will be treated equally and without discrimination, in accord with the Olympic Charter and Olympic spirit."

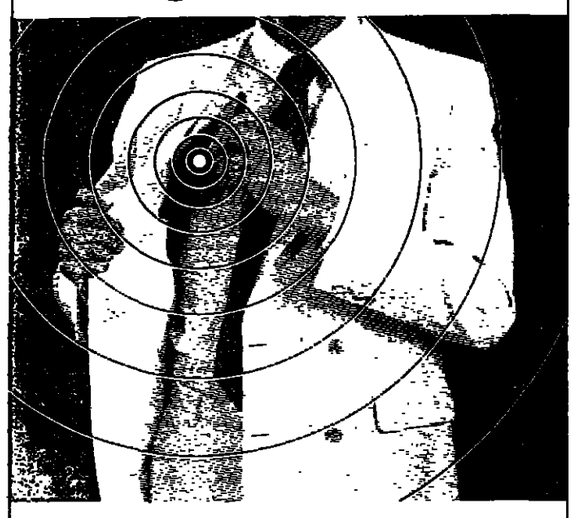
In a prepared statement, Samaranch said: "In the present critical situation, these guarantees from the president of the United States are a new element. This is why I have requested an audience with Mr. Konstantin Chernenko."

"I would like him to intercede with the Soviet National Olympic Committee, so that it reconsiders its decision not to participate in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles."

He said he was still awaiting a reply to his request.

On renewed suggestions by Greece that the Olympics be permanently held there, he said that two years ago the IOC had decided that the games belonged to the world. All countries had the right to host them.

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5. Full time

Send resume outlining training and experience for the past three years to P.O. Box 926871 Amman, Jordan.

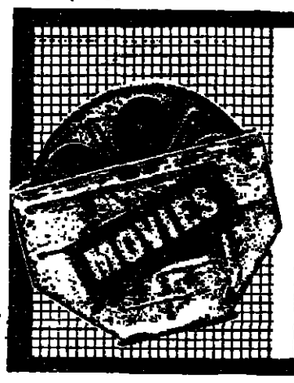


Let French food stimulate your senses

Have you ever wondered why the French nation is celebrated the world over for its wonderful food?
It's because there is something special about the way French food is grown, made, prepared, cooked and consumed that stimulates all your senses so enjoyably.
When you see it's fine quality and the appetising way in which it is displayed, the exciting stimulation process has already started. At the same time, you begin to smell its overall aroma and detect with delight the more gentle fragrances hidden within. And, before you taste its delicious flavour and vital freshness, you may also feel the substances of its many rich textures. Even the sounds of preparation and conviviality whet your appetite, contributing to the whole rewarding and memorable experience of eating French food.
Et voilà! as the French would exclaim with appreciation, your senses have been duly stimulated.
Eat French food every day and enjoy a stimulating life.

You are invited to taste French Food at any of the following supermarkets:
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Khalaf Stores • Al Boustan • Sweet • Al Waha • Picadilly • Luswi • Rainbow • Waddan
MAY 7 - MAY 11
Hi Way • Iffco • Green Valley • Babel • Safeway • Jordan Supermarket
IRBID • MAY 15 - MAY 18
Hamdan Supermarket • Alia Supermarket • Irbid Supermarket
AQABA • MAY 22 - MAY 24
Al Kawtar • Human Minisupermarket • Abdeen Food Stores.

Organized by Sopexa
The French Food Council



Cinema Tel: 677420
CONCORD
THE PROFESSIONAL
Colour
Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30 p.m. Additional performances: Fridays and Sundays at 10:30 p.m. Car park available.

Cinema
AL-HUSSEIN
Tel: 22117
STRYKER
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
RAINBOW
Tel: 25155
WE ARE NO ANGELS
(Colour)
Performances: 3:30-6 - 8:30

Cinema
ZAHRAN
Tel: 23171
WHAT SHALL WE DO
(Colour)
"Italian Film"
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
BASMAN
Tel: 30126
KORANG
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema
PALESTINE
Tel: 22117
1- SAAS
"Indian film"
2- RETURN TO ROOM 36
"Karate"
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema
RAGHADAN
Tel: 22198
SAMRAAT
(Colour)
"Indian film"
Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

هكذا هي الأصل

Central bankers urge new solutions for debt crisis

NEW YORK (R) — World central bankers ended talks on the global debt crisis by urging curbs on the interest rates which financially-troubled nations are forced to pay, monetary sources said.

Western diplomats and Reagan administration officials said these and other potential cures were to be considered at forthcoming international meetings.

One central banker who attended the three-day session which ended Wednesday said the debt crisis was so vast that it was beyond the scope of central bankers alone.

The huge dimensions of the crisis demanded the attention of finance ministers and even world leaders, he said.

The diplomats said the issue was likely to be highlighted at ministerial meetings of the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the group of 10 leading industrial countries later this month.

The world debt crisis is also on the agenda of the summit of the seven leading industrial democracies to be held in London on June 7-9, the diplomats said.

Sources attending the central bankers meeting said the main proposal considered, at the urging of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board, was one to limit interest rates charged to Third World debtor countries, adding the excess to the principal of the loan and extending repayments.

Another variant of the scheme would set ceilings and floors to interest rates. In times of falling interest rates, the floor would speed up loan repayments.

Banking sources said commercial bankers were divided over the scheme and the meeting was jarred by a half-point rise to 12.5 per cent in U.S prime rates, which banks charged their best customers.

The search for a long-term alternative to the current case-by-case approach was becoming pressing, monetary sources said.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Stock prices closed lower on interest rate worries. The vigorously denied rumours of difficulties at Continental Illinois bank and end of account influences also contributed to the decline, dealers said.

The F.T. 30 share index at 1500 hrs was off 16.7 to 868.3, making a fall of 47.2 on the week and 54.6 off the record set last Thursday at 922.8.

Government bonds showed net falls ranging to about ⅝. North American shares declined and golds were turning easier from mixed levels.

The banking sector showed falls ranging to 18p as in Midland at 364 and Lloyds at 369. BOC was 18p off at 270 reflecting prospects over its American activities, P and O lost 12p to 312 partly on fading bid hopes and ICI ended 8p down at 594.

B.P. gave up 16p at 480 and Ultramar extended Thursday's fall which followed its first quarter figures by 20p to 599.

Life insurances moved against the trend after assurances that no tax changes are planned on pension fund policies but turned mixed at the close leaving Prudential up 7p at 460. Composite insurances were mixed with an easier bias. Royal insurances eased 5p more to 535.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday. Tourists rates will differ from those quoted below:

One sterling	1.3822/32	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2953/56	Canadian dollars
	2.7710/20	West German marks
	3.1120/30	Dutch guilders
	2.2860/70	Swiss francs
	56.40/43	Belgian francs
	8.5075/5125	French francs
	1706.75/1707.75	Italian lire
	230.18/28	Japanese yen
	8.1240/90	Swedish crowns
	7.8425/75	Norwegian crowns
	10.1325/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	373.00/373.50	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF® By Harris



"I just realized something — the only time I overeat is when I'm on a diet!"

JUMBLE® THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

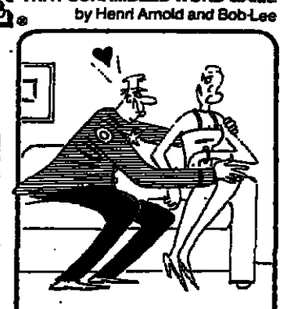
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GRAWE

SELOO

GALUPE

PAMEND



WHAT SHE WAS ALWAYS LEERY OF WHEN SHE DATED THAT COP.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: THE ___ ___ OF THE ___

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: MOUND WHINE GARISH FUTURE
Answer: What a shotgun wedding is a case of— WIFE OR DEATH

Volkswagen swings back to profit

WOLFSBURG, West Germany (R) — Volkswagen, West Germany's biggest carmaker, Thursday announced that it made a handsome profit in the first quarter this year after two years of huge losses.

But Chief Executive Carl Hahn warned that a threatened strike by the West German Metalworkers' Union in support of a five-hour cut in the working week to 35 hours, could jeopardise Volkswagen's return to profitability.

The group made a net profit of 51 million marks ($18 million) in the first three months of 1984, after a 100 million mark ($36 million) loss in the same period last year.

It also managed to reduce substantially its net loss for the whole of 1983, bringing it down to 215 million marks ($77 million) from the 300 million mark ($107 million) loss the previous year.

Mr. Hahn was reluctant to comment on the effects of a possible strike but said that Volkswagen workers had never downed tools.

"A strike could cost us the profits we've made this year," he said in an interview with Reuters.

BMW forms joint venture in U.S.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Michigan (R) — The West German luxury carmaker BMW said Thursday it had formed a $20 million joint venture with Churchill International of San Francisco for high technology development.

Gunter Kramer, chief officer of BMW's North American subsidiary, said the new "BMW technology partners" would invest in products and manufacturing processes in the United States with BMW's initial stake at $6 million.

Principal emphasis, he said, would be given to "artificial intelligence, computer integrated manufacturing, data communications and test and measurement equipment."

Reagan criticises interest rate rise

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan said Thursday there was no justification for the recent rise in U.S. interest rates but did not follow the example of other administration officials and blame the Federal Reserve Board.

"We are not pleased with the recent increase in interest rates and frankly there is no satisfactory reason for them," Mr. Reagan said in speech to the National Association of Realtors.

He did not specifically assess responsibility for Tuesday's 0.5 per cent rise in bank prime lending rates.

Ankara predicts high exports, falling inflation

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal predicted that Turkey's exports would exceed $7 billion this year and inflation would fall to an annual rate of 25 per cent by the year's end.

At a conference Thursday on Turkey and international financial markets organised by Euromoney Magazine, he said: "I believe the $6.8 billion target (for 1984 exports) will be passed. It will be a little higher than $7 billion.

Exports for the first three months of this year reached $1.3 billion. Mr. Ozal said provisional figures for April showed exports rose another $600 million during that month. Exports in 1983 totalled $5.7 billion.

Mr. Ozal, answering questions from the 80 bankers and businessmen from 14 countries at the conference, predicted inflation would start to fall late in the year. "When we come to the last quarter of this year, the inflation rate on the yearly basis will be around 25 per cent, maybe less," he said.

Latest figures released this week for the wholesale price index, taken here as the main inflation indicator, show an annual rate of increase to the end of April of 45.6 per cent.

According to the figures, which were given only in percentages without indices, the index rose 8.3 per cent in April compared with 2.3 per cent in March and 1.4 per cent the previous April. The index rose 20.1 per cent in the first four months of this year, the figures showed.

Mr. Ozal blamed the previous government, which left office last December, for the recent inflation surge. It increased the money supply over limits agreed with the International Monetary Fund and did not implement necessary price hikes in basic commodities, he said.

"In other words, these (recent) figures do not show the real inflation of 1984 and also include some of the inflation which was not recorded in 1983," Mr. Ozal said.

He said he hoped to increase Turkey's international credit rating. "Turkey's international credit rating, which had suffered heavily and sunk to the bottom in 1979, has continuously improved. We hope to get into the top 25 or 30 within the next five years," he declared.

The chairman of the conference, Former British Defence Minister John Nott, praised the free-market economic policies of Mr. Ozal's government and Turkey's contribution to the Western alliance in his opening address.

In Ankara, the Central Bank Thursday reacted to the recent inflation surge by hoisting interest rates, in line with Mr. Ozal's policy of keeping returns to depositors ahead of inflation.

It raised rates for new deposits after May 14 to 52 per cent from 49 per cent for three-month deposits and to 48 per cent from 47 per cent for six-month deposits.

One-year rates and sight deposits remained unchanged at 45 per cent and five per cent respectively.

The Central Bank also announced a system of rediscount penalties for commercial banks lending at credit rates over its recommended rates of 53.5 per cent for short term loans and 52 per cent for long term loans.

Banks lending at over these rates will have to pay rediscount rates to the Central Bank higher than the standard 52 per cent, according to how much they exceed the recommended credit rates.

Rates to creditors offered by commercial banks currenly range between 48 per cent and 60 per cent, with most charging extra commission on top of these.

Ecuador expected to boost oil exports

QUITO (R) — The apparent triumph of rightist businessman Leon Febres Cordero in Ecuador's presidential election is likely to spur greater oil exports from Ecuador.

Initial increases are expected by oil industry sources to be moderate, raising exports by more than five per cent to nearly 180,000 barrels per day (BPD) as Texaco implements plans to pump more oil from the Amazon Basin.

If Mr. Febres' victory in Sunday's poll is confirmed by electoral authorities, his free enterprise outlook is likely to encourage foreign oil companies to increase exploration efforts, which, if successful could boost exports by as much as 50 per cent before the end of the decade, they said.

Mr. Febres' background as a self-made millionaire industrialist would inspire oil companies' interest in Ecuador, said one oilman.

"As a businessman, he is bound to clear away a lot of the red tape that had made some oil companies reluctant to invest here in the past."

The U.S.-based Texaco and City Service Corporations are the only foreign oil companies active here, although Texaco's managerial oilfield role is due to be phased out at the end of the year under a current government plan.

One foreign analyst said foreign oil investor confidence would be consolidated if Mr. Febres, as expected, scrapped plans to curtail Texaco's role.

It is unclear how far Mr. Febres will go to reduce domestic oil consumption to free more of Ecuador's 258,000 BPD output for export.

Industry officials say local consumption would drop dramatically if Mr. Febres raised petrol prices by eliminating a state subsidy, but this is a sensitive point. In 1982, a government-ordered price rise touched off a week of riots.

Although Ecuador is a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), government efforts to boost oil output are not expected to run into opposition from the exporter group, even though Ecuador already exceeds its 200,000 BPD quota, Western diplomats said.

OPEC leaders traditionally consider Ecuador — the organisation's second smallest producer — as a marginal factor in the world oil market, they said.

Trade ministers in U.S. for talks

WASHINGTON (R) — Trade ministers from more than a dozen nations open informal talks in Washington Friday which U.S. officials hope will ease trade tensions.

Reagan administration sources said the U.S. government would like the two-day meeting to nudge competing countries towards action on growing problems over protectionism and debt repayments.

U.S. officials have criticised Japan for policies they say bar American products from its market. They also, accuse the European Community of subsidising farm exports which compete with U.S. products in third countries.

Developing nations have attacked Washington's trade policies, which they say are becoming increasingly protectionist as the U.S. presidential election draws near.

But the United States, faced with prospects of a trade deficit nearing $120 billion this year, says developing countries must open their ports to more American goods as well.

Represented at the meetings will be Japan, Australia, Brazil, Canada, India, Mexico, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea, Canada, Yugoslavia, Sweden and France.

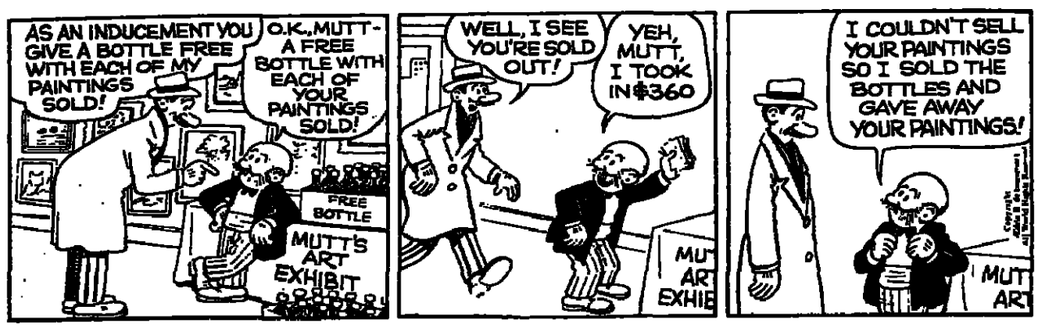
The European Community is also represented, along with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the International Monetary Fund.

The United States believes consideration should be given to a new round of trade negotiations, similar to the Tokyo round of the late 1970s.

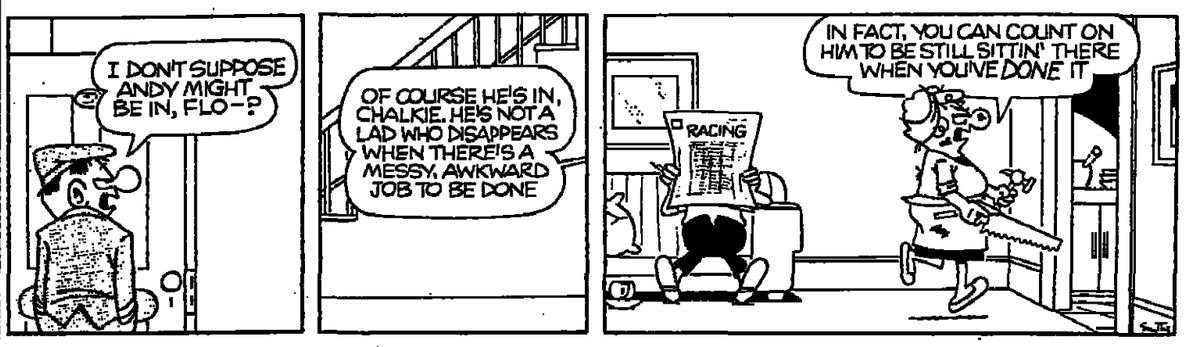
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Dollar surge halts

FRANKFURT, West Germany (R) — The dollar's surge on foreign exchange markets came to a halt Friday as the threat of further heavy intervention by central banks deterred operators from building up holdings of the currency.

Currency dealers said what appeared to be a concerted move Thursday by European central banks and the Bank of Japan to brake the dollar's rise seemed to have had a delayed impact.

The move, believed to have been co-ordinated by the West German Bundesbank, was not repeated Friday, but dealers said the determination with which central banks are prepared to defend their currencies has taken the sting out of the dollar's rise.

One dealer said: "It is too early to say the dollar's trend is broken, but intervention calmed what was a hectic market."

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you will be able to charm others by the attention and interest that you indicate in their welfare and activities, and you will find they respond to your concern by being helpful.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Showing more affection for allies brings good results during the daytime, but steer clear of arguments in the evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can get your environment improved considerably now and be more comfortable in the future. Be kind with co-workers.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Good day to get into recreations best enjoyed by your associates, but tonight stay at home and save money.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Show kin that you are willing to cooperate with them more and you get good results. Be calm, cool and poised.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A fine day for telling your associates how much you like them. Be sure not to criticize. Thus you can improve relationships.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Find some way of adding to present income and also get property affairs in better order. Try to cut down on expenses.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you tackle some definite personal aims in a positive fashion and are ingenious, you can gain them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A good day for ferreting out the truth in relationships with others; then use this knowledge wisely.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get busy at personal aims that are difficult to handle during work days, and use positive methods. Drive with care.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Fine day to get outside affairs handled for which you have had little time of late. If you state your aims, you will gain support.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Very interesting ideas can be yours now if you are alert. One who thinks differently from you can be of real assistance now.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan what should be done to bring more happiness to your mate and then carry through with ideas. Show that you are dependable.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be one who will get along well with friends because of the innate understanding of their needs. Slant education along lines of endeavor where coordination with others is the prerequisite. Teach the power of making decisions quickly.

* * *

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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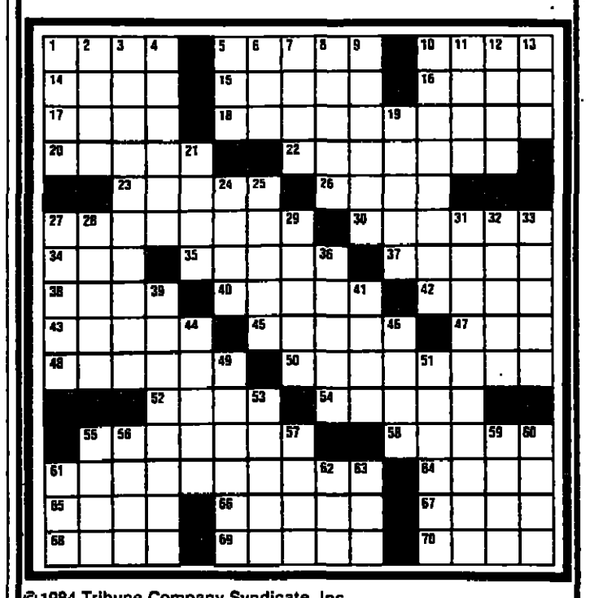
THE Daily Crossword by Nancy McCarthy

ACROSS
1 Big party
5 Extinct wild ox
10 Entreat
14 Sea eagle
15 Bright
16 Incursion
17 Seth's son
18 Winter weather feature
20 Tailed amphibians
22 Early
23 Rot
26 Ten: pref.
27 Strangled
30 Ordinary people
34 Black cuckoo
35 "— Andronicus"
37 — hand (assist)
38 Elevator
40 Tenth part
42 Extinct bird
43 Thrusting weapon
45 Randolph or George
47 Emerge victoriously
48 Wise one
50 Skep dweller
52 Iowa State U. city
54 Pacific Islands
55 Constrains
58 Throb
61 Like alps
64 Wings
65 Consort of Zeus
66 Tierney film
67 — Gwyn
68 River to the North Sea
69 Tribe VIP
70 June 6, 1944

DOWN
1 "Where have you —?"
2 Br. composer
3 Result of 18A
4 Scarlet letter girl
5 Ship letters
6 Race
7 Parvenu
8 Single
9 Method
10 Gave assurance
11 Unusual
12 Goals
13 Measures: abbr.
19 Siamese coin
21 Highlander
24 Have a go —
25 Abominable snowmen
27 Gr. physician
28 Flavorful herb
29 Kind of treat or door
31 Grew at an increasing rate
32 Fisher or Foy
33 Fr. river
36 Chases away
39 All-out armed effort
41 Sicilian spouter
44 Droll
46 Weatherman's abbr.
49 Treat royally
51 "— the night and the music"
53 Calyx leaf
55 Units
56 Make holes
57 Potato
59 Casa chamber
60 Slithery
61 Demure
62 Before
63 Patriotic org.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

L	A	S	T		S	L	O	P	S		C	O	S	T
A	B	I	E		P	E	L	E	E		O	L	E	O
D	O	N	T		A	G	I	L	E		L	A	M	E
D	U	C	H	E	S	S	O	F	M	A	L	F	I	
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			R	A	T	E	S		D	I	T	H	E	R
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M	A	D	A	M	E	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y
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M	E	R	I	T	S		D	U	M	A	S			
		S	R	A					L	O	E	S	S	
	Q	U	E	E	N	E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H
C	U	R	T		I	R	A	T	E		B	R	I	E
L	I	N	T		T	I	M	E	S		E	I	R	E
I	P	S	E		Y	E	A	S	T		B	E	S	T



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Reagan wins congressional battle over C. American aid

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan won a major endorsement of his Central America policy after months of struggle with opposition Democrats when the U.S. House of Representatives aprroved $1.3 billion aid package for the region..

The proposal passed Thursday night ignores tough conditions on human rights in El Salvador which had been advocated by liberal Democrats.

Although most democrats, who comprise the House majority, voted against the plan, enough joined minority Republicans to give the president a narrow 212-208 victory.

Desperate Democrats, hoping to shift support their way, used a parliamentary tactic to force a second vote. But they lost that one, too, 211-208.

"Our feeling is this was not a personal win for (Reagan). We were impressed by the closeness of the vote," said an aide to House Speaker Thomas O'Neill, who has accused Mr. Reagan of widening the fighting in Central America.

The White House was elated with the outcome, which vastly improved the chances of the aid package becoming law. The measure now goes to the Senate, controlled by Mr. Reagan's Republicans.

The aid plan was approved by the House amid new claims that the Central Intelligence Agency was involved in last Sunday's presidential election in El Salvador.

One congressional source told Reuters that the Senate Intelligence Committee, in close-door session, gave the CIA clearance to provide aid for U.S.-supported political parties in general and in El Salvador in particular.

Other sources said the House Intelligence Committee sent a letter to CIA Director William Casey protesting that it was not told of the CIA involvement, as required by law.

Senator Jesse Helms raised the issue this week when he publicly accused the CIA and the State Department of funnelling funds to Jose Napoleon Duarte, a moderate who many U.S. officials hope will win the Salvadorean presidency and who has claimed victory ahead of the final result.

The Senate committee met Thursday and discussed both Sen. Helms' charges and the Salvadorean elections.

Asked about Sen. Helms charges, Committee Vice-Chairman Daniel Patrick Moynihan, a New York Democrat, said: "They are something the executive (branch of government) has to deal with and ought to deal with."



King Juan Carlos I of Spain and Queen Sofia (centre) were received by Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko (right) and his wife, Anna Chernenko (left), during a welcoming ceremony in the Kremlin, Thursday (AP wirephoto).

Juan Carlos, Sofia begin Soviet visit

MOSCOW (R) — King Juan Carlos of Spain, only the fourth European monarch to visit the Soviet Union, has started a six-day state stay with a speech defending human rights wherever they are threatened.

Replying to a Kremlin dinner speech Thursday night by President Konstantin Chernenko — who outlined Soviet charges against the West but did not mention Moscow's Olympic boycott — the king concentrated on democracy and human rights.

"My country support with all its strength... the real enjoyment of human rights in their broadest sense wherever these might be threatened," King Juan Carlos said.

Western diplomats said the king's remarks woiuld probably have caused some irritation in the Kremlin, which takes references to human rights as referring to its own record.

Although Spanish officials have stressed the non-political role of the king as head of state, diplomats see his six-day visit accompanied by his wife, Queen Sofia, as part of a pattern of contacts between the Kremlin and Western leaders.

Moscow and Madrid regard the king's trip as marking the full renewal of ties after the bitter split caused by the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s. The two nations re-established diplomatic relations in 1977.

On Friday, the king was expected to meet Spanish residents at a reception in Moscow, including many of the 1,500 exiles who fled to Moscow after Gen. Francisco Franco's Nationalists defeated the Republicans in 1939.

Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran is to meet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko for talks expected to focus on the state of East-West relations.

The Kremlin laid on an elaborate state welcome for the king and queen, with Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov and a row of ministers lining up to meet them at the airport.

Mr. Chernenko looking tanned but unusually frail, and his wife Anna greeted the royal couple outside the grand Kremlin Palace.

Later, the king and Mr. Chernenko held talks while their wives visited Moscow's Ballet Academy.

Chileans urge demonstration against Pinochet

SANTIAGO (R) — Chile marked the first anniversary of monthly protests against the rule of President Augusto Pinochet Friday with another call from his opponents for demonstrations to demand a quick return to democracy.

The organisers again insisted that people should protest peacefully, staying at home if possible during the day and banging saucepans at night. But politicians and diplomats said there could be more victims to add to the total of 70 killed since last May.

The trade unions who began the protest movement a year ago and the opposition political parties which have since emerged from their semi-clandestine existence of the last decade blame the security forces for the deaths, none of which has been explained.

The military government, however, has blamed the opposition for persisting with the protests and said again this week that it had a duty to take tough measures to protect lives and property.

Diplomats say the enthusiasm for the protests, especially among the middle classes, appears to have declined as violence has risen, but poor neighbourhoods where unemployment is highest and the left strongest remain likely focal points for disturbances after dark.

The diplomats also said that throughout last year, the government had helped to keep the protest movement alive by its response — jailing politicians and union leaders, imposing curfews in the capital and major cities and swamping the streets with police and, on one bloody night last August, troops.

Both opposition leaders and government supporters say the protest movement was responsible for opening up political activity — officially in recess since the 1973 coup — with the appointment of Sergio Jarpa as interior minister in August.

Political groups on the right have also begun to organise and, though they reject the opposition's tactics, are urging that aspects of the transition to democracy, not due to be completed until 1989, be speeded up.

Pope visits Vietnamese refugee camp

PHANAT NIKHOM, Thailand (R) — Pope John Paul Friday visited Indochinese refugees in a hot, dusty camp southeast of Bangkok and after stating "the world has not forgotten you" announced a $50,000 grant for them.

"I wish to share with you your sufferings, your hardships and your pain," the Pope told representatives of 19,000 Vietnamese, Laotian and Kampuchean refugees awaiting resettlement abroad.

He called on the refugees to have hope in the future and urged them to perfect new skills "in order to adapt socially to the country which will open its doors to you".

The Pope arrived in Thailand Thursday on the final leg of an Asian-Pacific trip which has also taken him to South Korea, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

He came to the camp here — 120 kilometres southeast of Bangkok — in a motorcade flanked by outriders with sirens blaring. As he stepped from his car, he was greeted with polite applause by a crowd of several thousand.

The pontiff met the refugees on the camp football field and wiped his brow with a handkerchief as he walked under the bright sun.

Security was heavy, with helicopters sweeping overhead and armoured personnel carriers at the edge of the camp.

His voice filled with emotion, the Pope told the refugees: "Have faith in yourselves. Never forget your identity as free people who have a rightful place in this world."

Addressing an estimated 1,000 Roman Catholics at the camp, he told them that God had never said suffering in itself was good but that their pains "when joined to those of Christ have value for the salvation of the world."

The Pope's speech in English was translated into Vietnamese, Kampuchean and Laotian and was punctuated by applause.

A Laotian refugee told the Pope in a brief welcoming statement that he hoped God wouldgive him strength to forgive those who forced him to flee from his country.

After the speeches, the pontiff spoke briefly with a group of refugees.

Bush visit may improve U.S. ties with India

NEW DELHI (R) — U.S. Vice-President George Bush arrives in India Saturday for a three-day visit which both Indian and American officials hope will accelerate improved links between Washington and New Delhi.

A senior U.S. diplomat told reporters Mr. Bush had no point-by-point agenda for talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi but wanted instead to discuss a wide range of issues.

"I feel there has been a degree of improvement since last year's visit to India by Secretary of State George Shultz. In particular, there has been a definite change for the better in trade," he said.

Indian and American officials said the topics which seem certain to dominate talks between Mr. Bush and Mrs. Gandhi on Monday include issues which have traditionally clouded relations between the United States and the leader of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The impact of U.S. arms sales to Islamabad on sensitive Indo-Pakistan relations, differences between Washington and New Delhi over the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, and President Reagan's visit earlier this month to Peking are expected to be discussed in some detail.

Diplomats said the United States finds it difficult to appreciate why India seems less concerned than Washington over Moscow's military presence in Afghanistan.

Indian political analysts said there was a widespread view in India that Democratic Party administrations in the United States had been traditionally more favourable towards New Delhi's socialist, non-aligned stance.

Republican leaders, and Mr. Reagan particularly, have been seen by several Indian newspapers as tilting in favour of Pakistan, a country that has fought three wars with India since independence in 1947.

Indian concerns likely to emerge during the visit include what Mrs. Gandhi sees as a threat posed to the Indian Ocean region by U.S. military developments and Washington's reluctance to increase contributions to international development bodies.

Mr. Bush is expected to brief Mrs. Gandhi on Mr. Reagan's recent visit to Peking, diplomats said.

"The issues which most trouble us are not susceptible to immediate solutions. We're not going to stop worrying, on both sides, about these things," the U.S. diplomat said.

COLUMN

High court rules Gandhi a Hindu

NEW DELHI (R) — A high court battle between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and her rebel daughter-in-law Maneka ended Thursday when a judge ruled that the Indian leader was a Hindu. Justice M.L. Jain was giving the reasons for his decision last week that the prime minister and her four-year-old grandson Feroze Varun were each entitled to one third of the 475,000 rupee ($47,500) estate of the boy's father, Sanjay. Maneka, widow of Sanjay, had argued that Mrs. Gandhi had no right to her late son's property under Hindu law because she had married a member of the minority Parsi sect in 1942. But Justice Jain, rejecting Maneka's contention, said Mrs. Gandhi was definitely a Hindu and had brought up Sanjay as a Hindu. Sanjay, who died in a plane crash in June 1980, had not undergone any Parsi initiation ceremony, Justice Jain added.

Florida executes first black in years

STARKE, Florida (R) — Florida Thursday executed a black for the first time in 20 years after the U.S. supreme court refused to consider further arguments that the state's death law is disproportionately applied to blacks. James Adams, 47, was convicted of killing the owner of a ranch which he burgled in 1974, with a poker. He is the 19th American to die since the death penalty was resotred in 1976. Five of the executions have been in Florida, four in the last six months. Florida still has 216 prisoners on death row, more than any other state. Witnesses to the execution said Adams was calm and his last words were: "To the men on death row, keep fighting because it (the penalty) is wrong and immoral."

Rare bird crashes into watcher's head

SUVA, Fiji (R) — British naturalist Dick Watling's year-long search in Fiji for a bird thought to be extinct ended when it crashed into his head. The bird, known as MacGillivray's Petrel, was recorded for the first and last time 129 years ago on the island of Gau, midway between this South Pacific state's two main islands. A survey ship caught one specimen of the small black and brown bird which is stuffed and on show in a London museum. Watling said he proved last week that the bird still existed when he lured one specimen in at night from the sea using flashlights and amplified recordings. It crashed into his head and after examining the dazed bird he let it go. "I can't take one as a specimen until I know how many there are," Watling, a Fiji resident, told Reuters.

Heroin pill does not relieve severe pain

BOSTON (R) — Giving heroin in pill form is an ineffective way to relieve severe pain, according to a study published Wednesday in the New England Journal of Medicine. In the first study directly examining the chemical transformation of heroin in human beings, a team of researchers led by Dr. Charles Inturrisi of Cornell University Medical College studied 11 volunteers, nine of whom were in severe pain due to advanced cancer. In some of the cases, the volunteers were given the drug in pill form and other times it was injected.

Pakistan bans political reports 'to avoid confusion'

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's chief spokesman said Friday the military government banned all political reporting by the press to avoid possible political confrontation.

Spokesman Yunus Sethi said a recent rise in press coverage of banned opposition parties could have confused the public about President Mohammad Zia-Ul-Haq's plan for elections by next March.

"There was very excessive reporting likely to create political confusion. Excessive reporting can lead to political confrontation," he told Reuters.

"The government wants a peaceful atmosphere so it can carry out its (election) programme," he added.

The government imposed the ban on Wednesday night after the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) denounced the polls plan and said it would strongly resist any partyless elections.

MRD Chief Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, whose critical statements have been prominently reported since he was freed on April 14 after two and a half years in prison, said Thursday the ban would destroy the atmosphere needed for national elections.

Minhaj Barna, president of the All-Pakistan Newspaper Employees Confederation, denounced the ban as discriminatory, saying the press reported political statements by Gen. Zia and his ministers but was now blocked from writing about the opposition.

Mr. Sethi said the ban, which came as a "press advice" telephoned to newspapers, was only a reminder to editors to comply with an existing martial law press ordinance.

"It simply said it would be better that the press keeps in mind martial law Ordinance 49, which forbids and bans publicity about political parties and political persons," he said.

Political parties were banned in 1979 after Gen. Zia, who seized power in a 1977 coup, cancelled promised elections for a second time.

Mr. Sethi denied the ban was a threat to re-impose direct censorship, dropped in March 1983 in favour of press advices which editors say tell them which stories to suppress and which to play up.

Vote count points to Duarte victory

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Moderate Jose Napoleon Duarte held a solid lead Friday in partial official returns from the presidential election, and a top military commander urged ultra-rightist Roberto d'Aubuisson to respect the results.

After the U.S. House of Representatives approved a $120-million military aid programme for El Salvador Thursday, the army chief of staff said his forces would soon be able to handle 80 per cent of their own training.

With 72 per cent of the vote counted, Mr. Duarte had 533,771 votes, or 55.8 per cent, to 423,380 votes, or 44.2 per cent, for Mr. D'Aubuisson, election officials said.

Regarding Mr. D'Aubuisson, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Col. Adolfo Blandon said: "If he's really a nationalist, as he said in his campaign, he must respect the will of the people."

Atomic fallout ruling brings mixed feelings

SALT LAKE CITY (R) — A 38-year-old mother, Jackie Sanders, the only cancer victim who survived to win damages in a landmark atomic fall-out case, said she felt a mixture of joy and frustration.

"I am very pleased with my award of $100,000, but I feel there is still a long fight ahead with the U.S. government," she said after Thursday's federal court ruling in which 10 claimants were awarded a total of $2.6 million in a giant test case against the government.

The remainder of the claimants were relatives of dead cancer victims.

Lawyers for the claimants said the government could eventually be forced to pay hundreds of millions of dollars to people who came under radioactive clouds from 212 atomic tests conducted above ground in Nevada between 1951 and 1962.

U.S. district court Judge Bruce Jenkins' 498-page decision issued in Salt Lake City ruled the government had been negligent in its Nevada test programme.

"The defendant failed to adequately warn the plaintiffs or their predecessors of long-range biological consequences to adults and children from exposure to fallout radiation from open air atomic testing and such failure was negligent," the ruling said.

Some 1,192 residents of the western states of Utah, Nevada, and Arizona had brought claims against the government, maintaining they or their relatives were victims of the tests.

Masonic lodge scandal returns to haunt Craxi

ROME (R) — A Masonic lodge scandal which brought down one Italian government has come back to haunt Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, after the Communist Party demanded the resignation of a minister named as a member of the shadowy network.

The opposition Communists said Social Democratic Party leader and Budget Minister Pietro Longo should step down after a parliamentary report said a previously published list containing his name was substantially correct.

Socialist Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, who finds himself suddenly caught in the backlash of the scandal which brought down a Christian Democratic-led government in 1981, had earlier rejected Mr. Longo's offer to leave the five-party ruling coalition.

Mr. Longo and two Social Democratic colleagues in the cabinet offered to hand in their portfolios in protest at the initial findings, leaked to the Italian press, of a parliamentary commission into the illegal P-2 Masonic lodge.

At first Mr. Craxi's office issued a statement expressing "understanding and sharing the reasons for the protest by the ministers."

But two hours later, after vigorous protests mainly by Communist and neo-fascist deputies, Mr. Craxi issued a longer statement saying he did not mean to interfere in any way with the findings of the commission which is headed by Tina Anselmi, a Christian Democrat and respected former labour minister.

Communist group leader Giorgio Napolitano said Mr. Craxi had tried to make light of the all-party commission's initial findings, which are intended to be the basis of a definitive report on one of the biggest post-war scandals in Italy.

A list of alleged P-2 members published in May, 1981, contained 962 names including many leading politicians, soldiers, businessmen, journalists and civil servants.

ICAO bans use of arms against civilian aircraft

MONTREAL (R) — Soviet delegates joined in the applause when the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) unanimously approved a world ban on the use of weapons against civilian aircraft.

The vote Thursday was a direct result of the shooting down of a South Korean airliner by Soviet fighters last September.

In March, the ICAO's governing council condemned the Soviet Union over the incident, and the vote followed three weeks of debate at an extraordinary meeting of the U.N. agency in response to the shooting down of the plane.

The ban is in an amendment to the basic international treaty covering aviation and must be ratified by 102 of the ICAO's 152 members before taking effect.

It says that "every state must refrain from resorting to the use of weapons against civil aircraft in flight."

U.S. delegate Francis Willis said the ban ensured that "tragedies involving the loss of human life such as the one that brought us here, shall not happen again".

However, there was little discussion during the debate of the shooting down of the South Korean plane in which 269 people were killed.

The amendment also says nations may require aircraft illegally flying in their airspace to land and allows countries to set "severe penalties" for such violations.

Mr. Willis said the United States was concerned that any penalties — not specified in the amendment — should be appropriate for the offence.

"The first assumption when an aircraft strays from its course should be that it is in distress," he said.

Other delegates suggested that another clause in the amendment, requiring that states must ensure that their civilian aircraft are not be used for illegal purposes, was mainly a domestic issue for each nation to address.

Washington opposes suggestions for international drug code

GENEVA (R) — The surgeon-general of the United States has said the U.S. government would oppose any move in the World Health Organisation (WHO) to introduce a marketing code for pharmaceutical drugs in developing countries.

Dr. C. Everett Koop, attending the annual World Health Assembly, said the Reagan administration could not agree to proposals for such a code because "the laws of our land do not permit us to stipulate how an American company will practise its trade in a foreign land."

An increasingly vocal group of developing countries are pressing for a code which would aim to prevent big multinational drug companies from engaging in aggressive marketing in Third World countries or selling products banned or controlled in industrialised nations.

Dr. Koop told Reuters in an interview Thursday that if there were instances of exploitation the U.S. was against them "but many times those reports are exaggerated, people do not get their statistics accurate and there is sometimes more smoke than there is fire."

Western representatives at WHO's executive board meeting last January managed to prevent the code issue being added to the agenda of a two-week policy-making assembly, which opened last Monday.

But some Third World delegates have said they might raise it under the heading of WHO's "action programme on essential drugs and vaccines" — a programme to ensure better supplies of drugs and vaccines to countries in need and at affordable prices.

Dr. Koop said that Washington was "thoroughly behind the essential drugs programme" but that it and a code were two very different things.

What should be encouraged in the developing world, he said, were strong national marketing and drugs codes like those in force in the U.S. and other industrialised countries.

Washington would have no objections to the WHO putting out a model code or guidelines to help developing countries enact their own legislation "provided it did not become something every country had to agree to do."

He had no instructions to suggest such a course of action, he said, but "I have voiced this idea privately in the corridors of this assembly where a lot of things start."

Anticipating criticisms of their marketing practices, the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations (IFPMA) circulated to the 1,000 or so delegates at the assembly a document arguing that the IFPMA's own voluntary marketing code was adequate.

The IFPMA said one reason why an international code would not work was that the WHO had no enforcement machinery, but Third World delegates said the IFPMA code also lacked a proper enforcement or monitoring system.

A mandatory international code, the IFPMA said, would "not be a marketing reform so much as a means of transferring income and assets from the private international firms of the West to the Third World nations of the South and East ... through nearly confiscatory price controls."

Relations between the WHO and the drug industry have been strained since 1977 when the U.N. organisation drew up a list of nearly 200 cheap, basic drugs effective in treating most major diseases and suggested Third World countries remove inessential drugs from the market.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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A TALE OF TWO DEUCES

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ J 10 8 7 6 3
♡ K
◇ K J 10 4
♣ 10 4

WEST
♠ 2
♡ Q J 9 4
◇ A 7 6 5
♣ A Q 7 2

EAST
♠ A
♡ 7 6 5 3 2
◇ 8 3 2
♣ J 6 5 3

SOUTH
♠ K Q 9 5 4
♡ A 10 8
◇ Q 9
♣ K 9 8

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: Queen of ♡.

Here's another hand from Eddie Kantar's excellent book, "Kantar for the Defense." Cover the South and East hands and see how you, West, would defend against South's four spade contract.

There is nothing unusual about the auction. Since most opening bids of one spade are made with a five-card suit. North's raise is text-book.

You lead the queen of hearts. Dummy's king wins and partner follows with the two. Declarer now leads the jack of diamonds from the table. Partner contributes another deuce and declarer produces the queen. Your first problem is: Do you win the ace?

Definitely, unless you want declarer to sluff one of dummy's losing clubs on his ace of hearts. You need to take your tricks quickly. What do you lead now?

There is a temptation to shift to clubs in the hope that you can cash two tricks in that suit. But two club tricks won't be enough to defeat the contract — you are going to need a trump trick as well. Besides, why didn't declarer cross to his hand with the ace of spades and assure his contract by discarding a club loser on his high heart?

Obviously, because he doesn't have the ace of trumps! So the winning defense is clear. You shift to a trump, and partner wins the ace. Now partner switches to a club, and you cash two club tricks for a one-trick set.

Bridge is really an easy game, isn't it. All you have to do is believe partner and the opponents.

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